SOIL［ソイル］5 カネコアツシ

SOIL ソイル

⑤ CONTENTS

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Main Characters

Onoda ..... Kamikawa Station police officer.

Yokoi ..... Sergeant as above. Onoda's boss.

Tamura ..... Detective as above.

Katakuri ..... Soil New Town police officer.

Ichinose ..... Katakuri's co-worker. **Disappeared.**

Masaki Suzushiro ..... Family father living in Soil New Town. **Disappeared.**

Noriko Suzushiro ..... His wife. **Disappeared.**

Mizuki Suzushiro ..... Their daughter. Soil Middle School 8th grader. **Disappeared.**

Kento Miyahara ..... A teenager raised in a fatherless family. Soil Middle School 8th grader.

Tomiyama ..... Soil Middle School 8th grader.

Seki ..... Soil Middle School 8th grader.

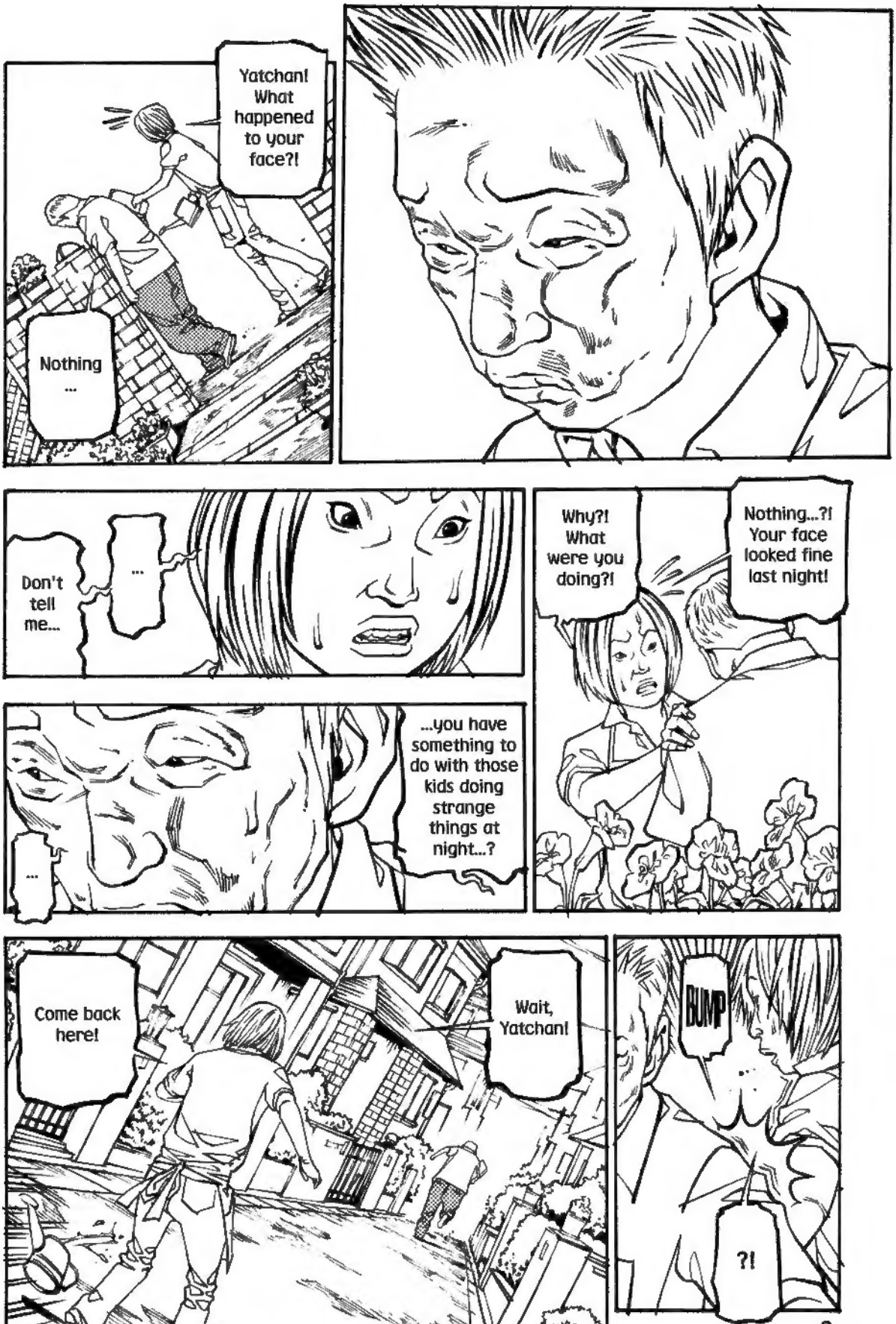
Tokita ..... Soil Middle School, temporary science instructor.

Kosaka ..... Soil Middle School, school counselor.

"Miss Sayuri" ..... An old woman living in the shrine ruins located on the town outskirts.

"Council President" .... Soil New Town Council President. **Murdered by Kento Miyahara's mother.**

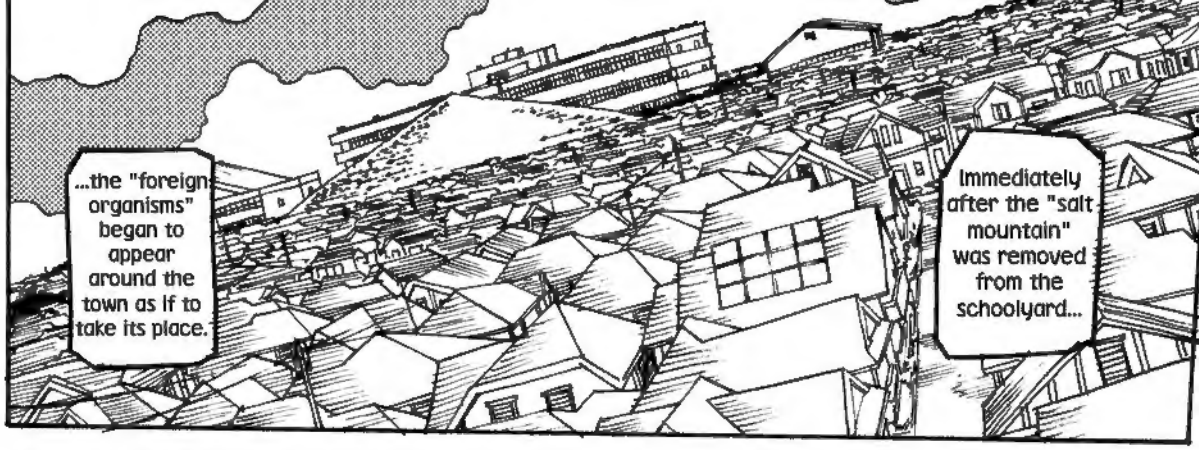
BLOCK 2-12
FSSSHH
What's this...?
Oh my...
GASP
Bye, Mom...

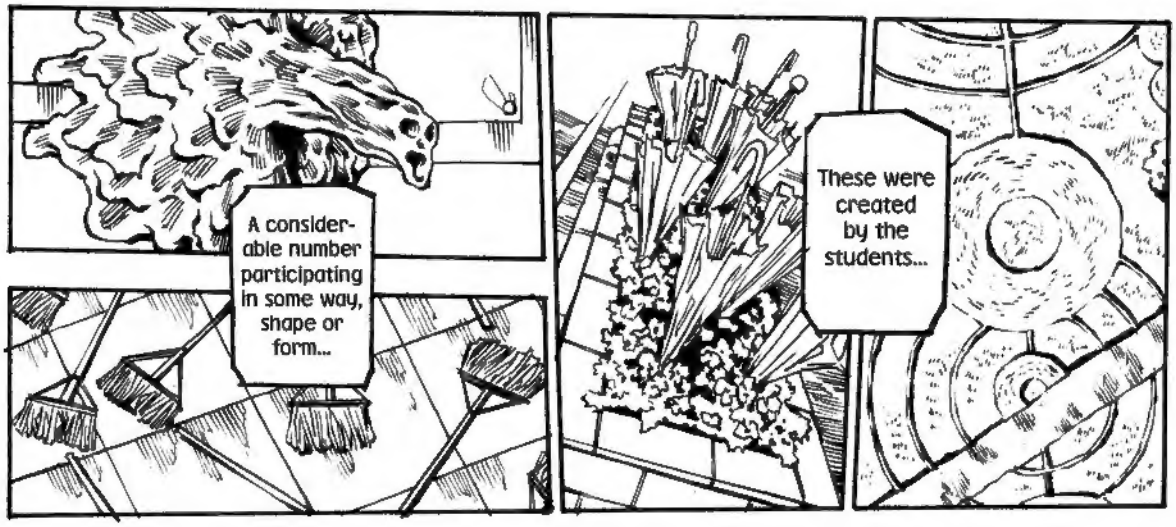

Yatchan! What happened to your face?!
Nothing ...
Don't tell me...
...
Why?! What were you doing?!
Nothing...?! Your face looked fine last night!
...
...you have something to do with those kids doing strange things at night...?
Come back here!
Wait, Yatchan!
BUMP
?!

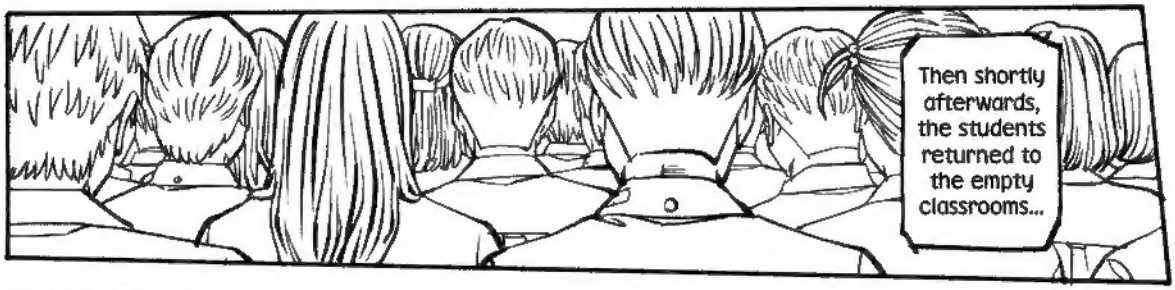
[Ghost
Hunt]

...
Another "foreign organism ...?"
...
FSSSSHHH
FSSSHH

SSSHH
...
Awkward, isn't it?
The students, the teachers...
...but now the teachers don't know what to do.
They're not sure how to go about communicating with you.
SWISH
Everyone's glad that you've all come back to school...
Would you like to have a little talk sometime?
...
You don't have to say anything unless you want to.
Just the things you want to talk about.

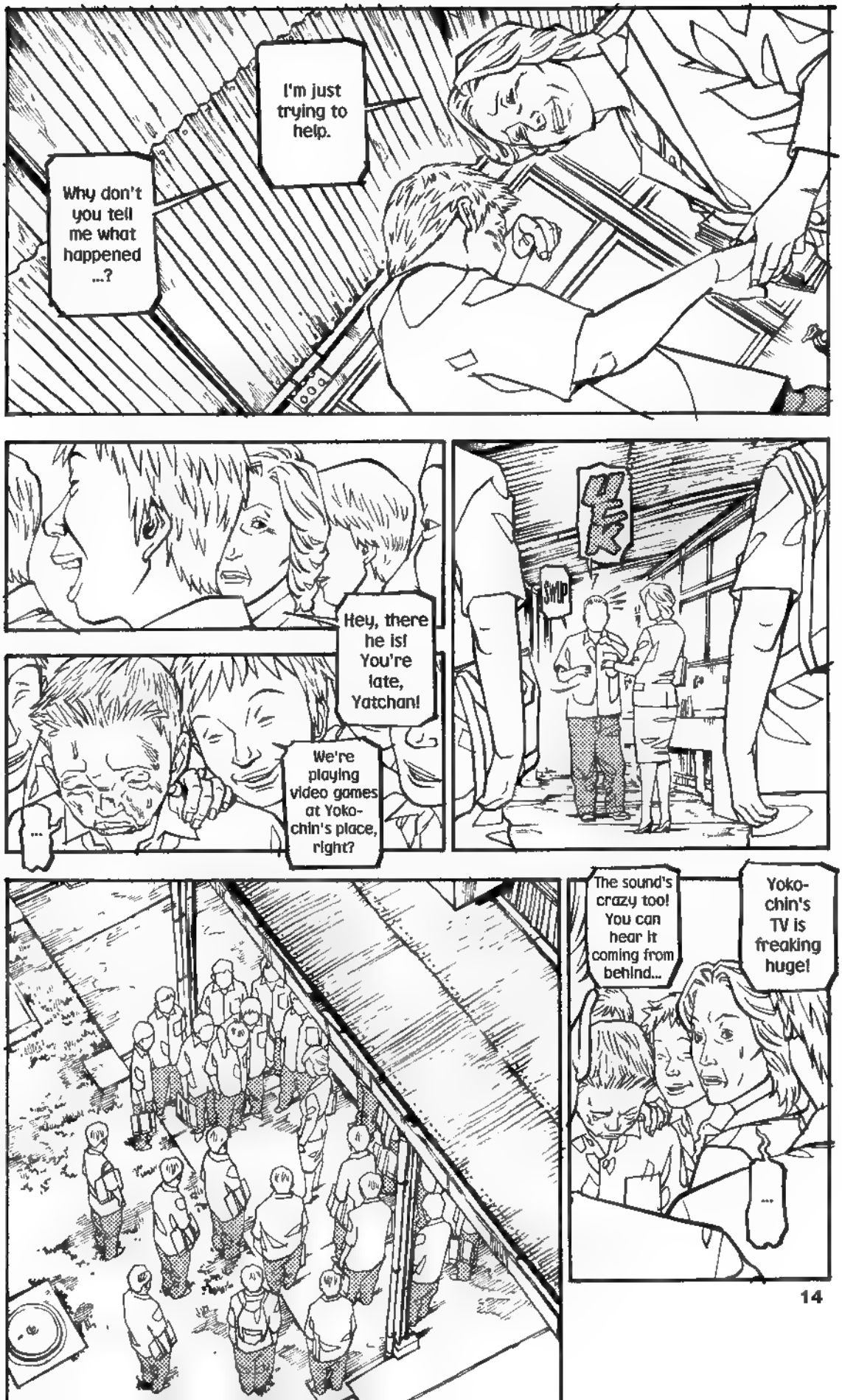

...the "foreign organisms" began to appear around the town as if to take its place.
Immediately after the "salt mountain" was removed from the schoolyard...

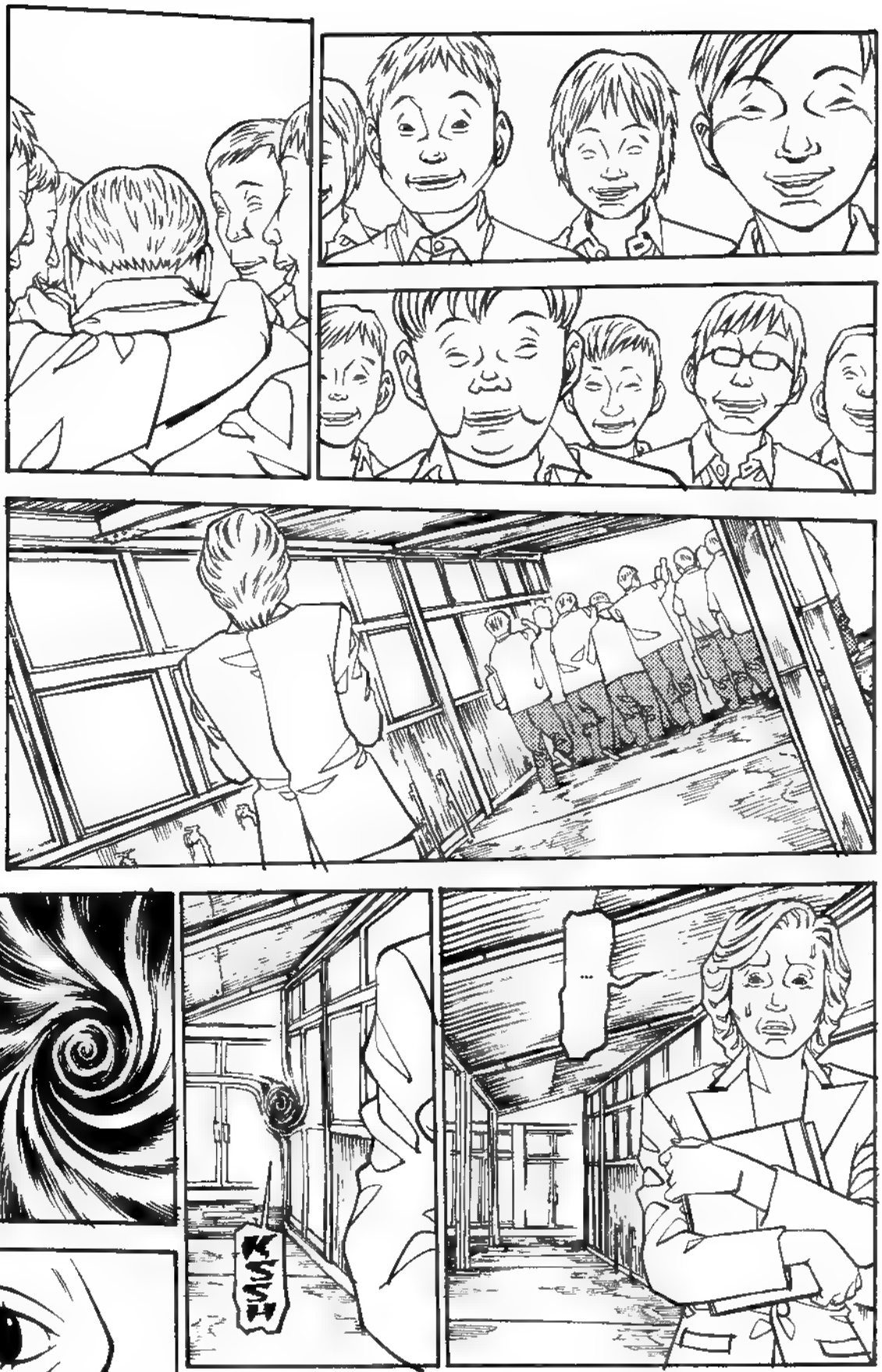

A considerable number participating in some way, shape or form...
These were created by the students...


Then shortly afterwards, the students returned to the empty classrooms...

...all of this has been meticulously organized.
But I think...
...!
The adults think this is all unorganized mischief...
They thought the school-phobia was like a meaningless fad...

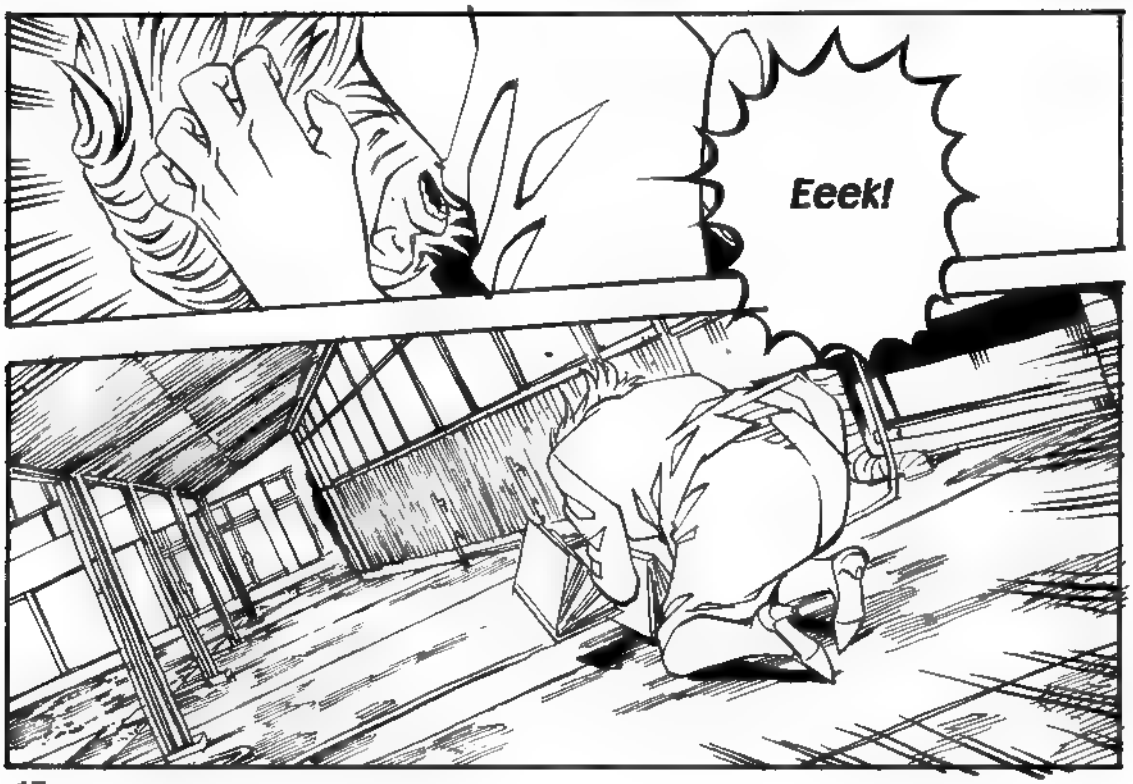
Okay, let me be frank...
...
Rumors and conjectures are fine if you're not sure.
If so, then are those kids...
...being led on by someone?
Is there a leader figure within that group?
More and more students...
...are showing up with injuries like yours as the days go by.
...
...within that group of kids?
Is there something changing...


I'm just trying to help.
Why don't you tell me what happened ...?
Hey, there he is! You're late, Yatchan!
We're playing video games at Yoko-chin's place, right?
...
SWIP
The sound's crazy too! You can hear it coming from behind...
Yoko-chin's TV is freaking huge!
...

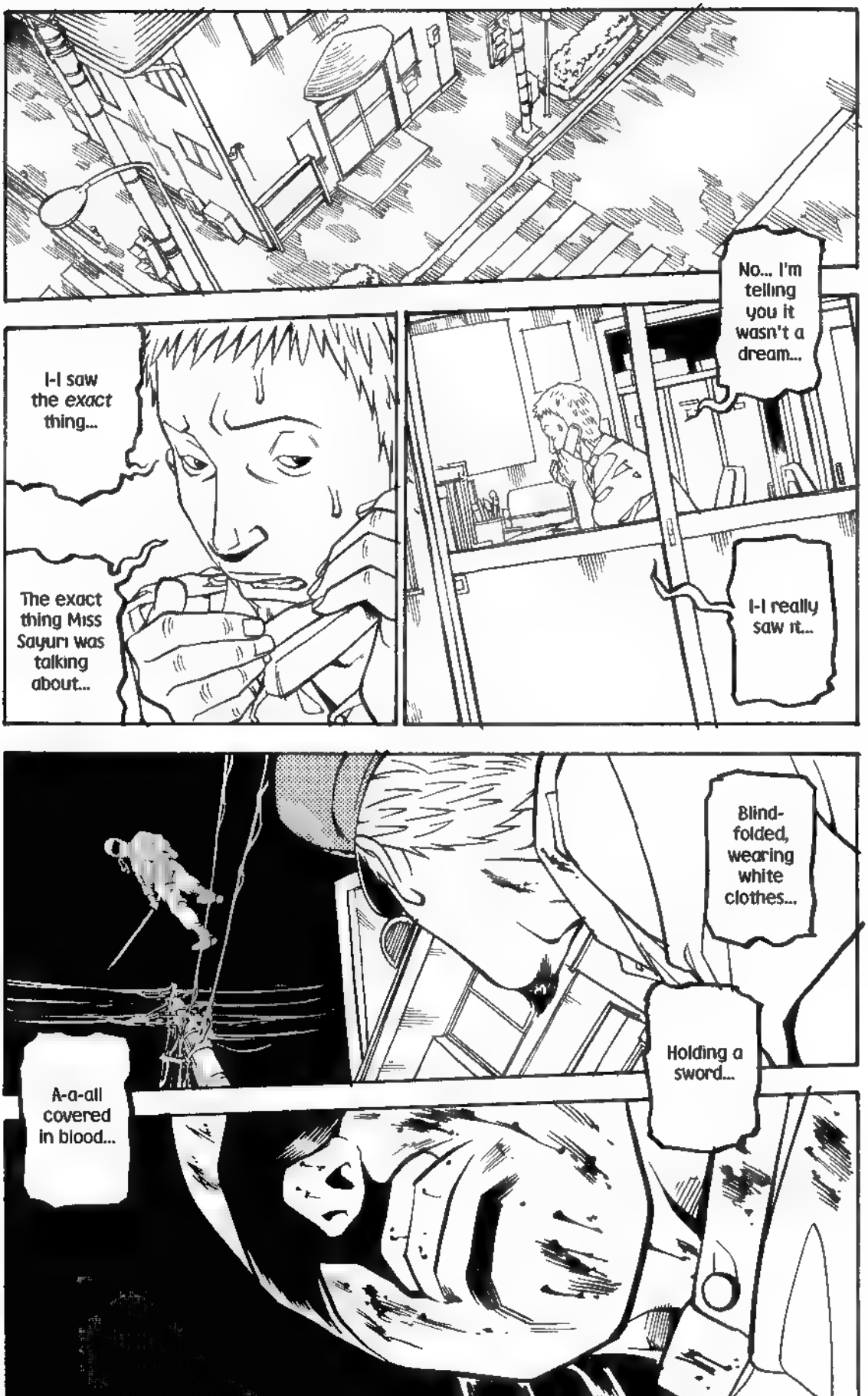

...
KSSH

WHOOSH
WOOOOSH
WOOO

WOOOOSH!!

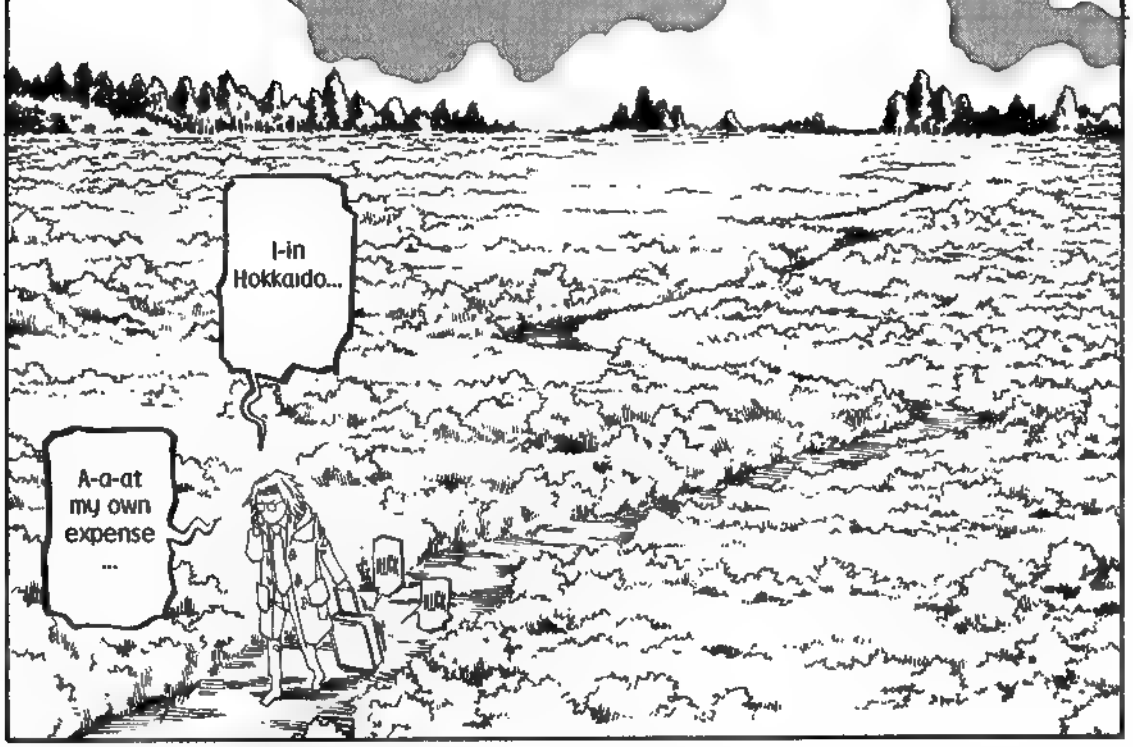

Eeek!

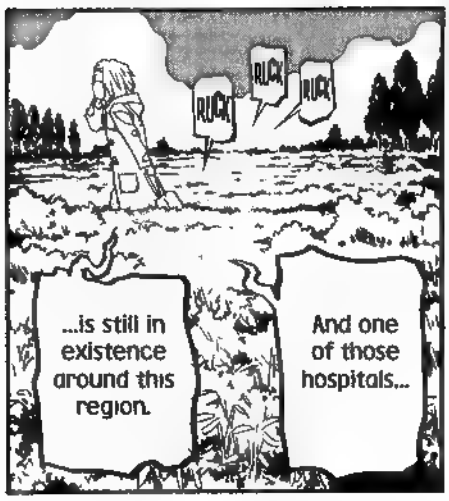
...
Miss... Kataoka...?

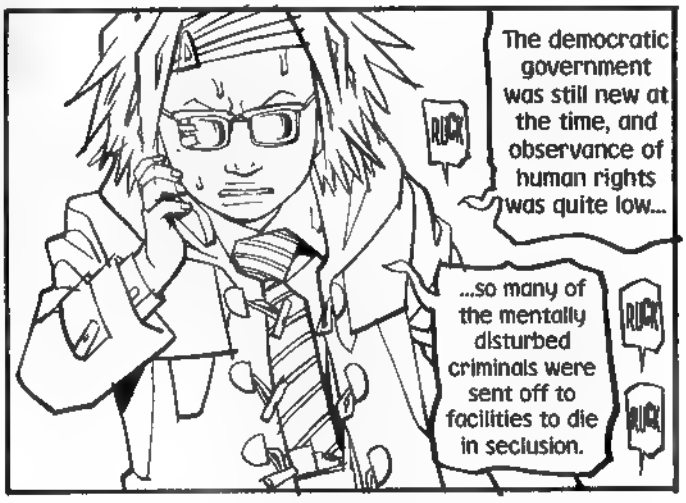

No... I'm telling you it wasn't a dream...
I-I saw the *exact* thing...
The exact thing Miss Sayuri was talking about...
I-I really saw it...
Blind-folded, wearing white clothes...
Holding a sword...
A-a-all covered in blood...

Wh-wh-what do you think...?
What was that thing...?
I-I-I mean...
...we saw in the "ghost building."
B-but it wasn't anything like the one...
Do you think I saw a ghost...?
It's still on my collar...
The blood...
Huh...?!
...

B-but it's been decades since then...
Th-then he's really still trying to kill Miss Sayuri...?
Someone that old was standing on the power lines...?
No, wait, that's not the point, is it...?
Dementia ...?!
H-he wasn't put to death...?!
He's still alive?!
I-I-I ran a cross-reference with the medical records from back then...
Th-the blindfolded man is still being kept inside of a mental hospital.
...a-a-and I've discovered his whereabouts.
RUCK
RUCK
RUCK
I-I'm just about to go see for myself...
I-I'm not sure either.
Th-then what was that thing I saw in "Soil?!"
Huuuh ?!
Huh?
Huh?
Where are you right now, Ms. Onoda...?
S-see for yourself...?

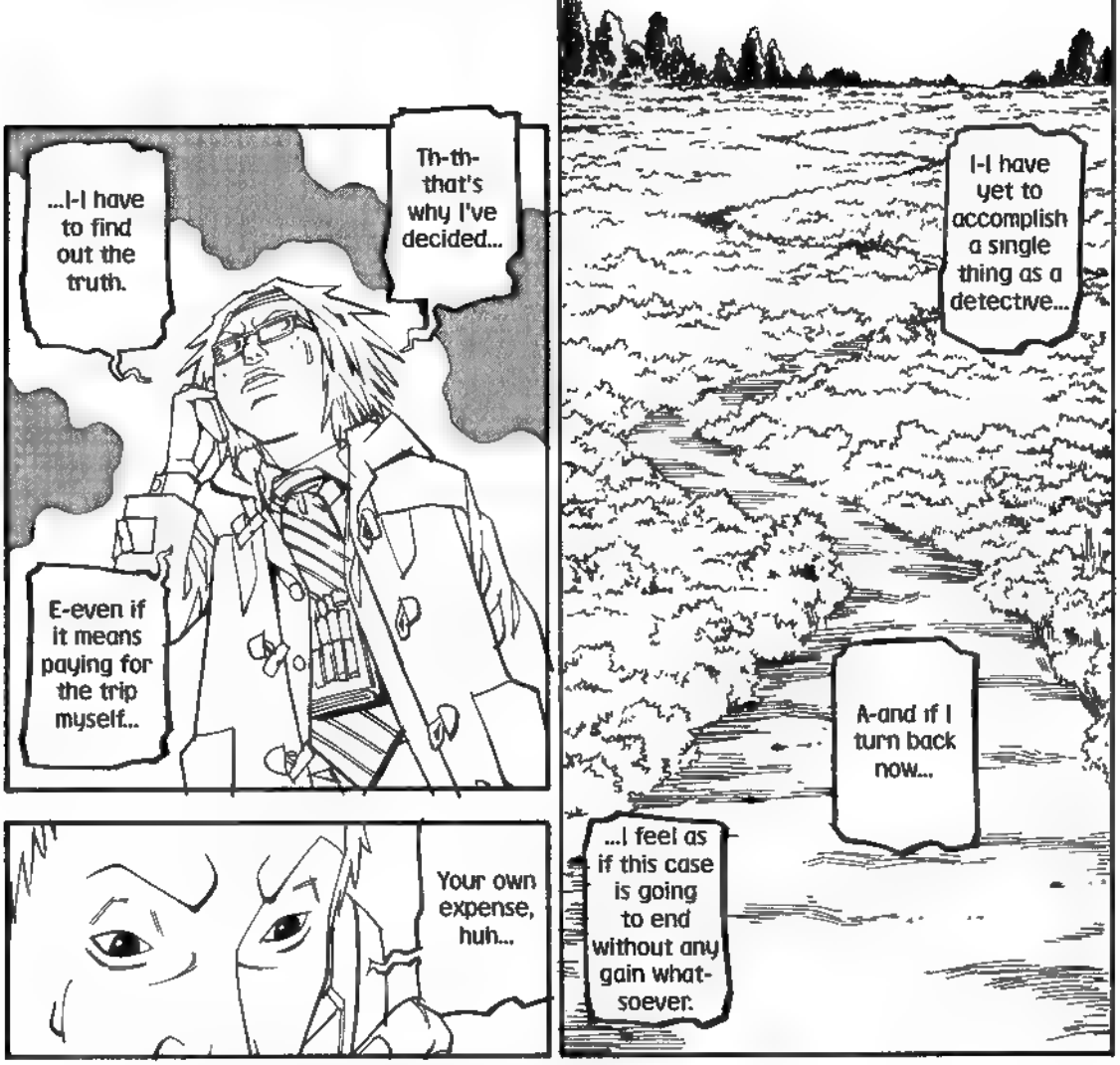

I-in Hokkaido...
A-a-at my own expense ...
RUCK
RUCK
RUCK


RUCK
RUCK
RUCK
...is still in existence around this region.
And one of those hospitals...

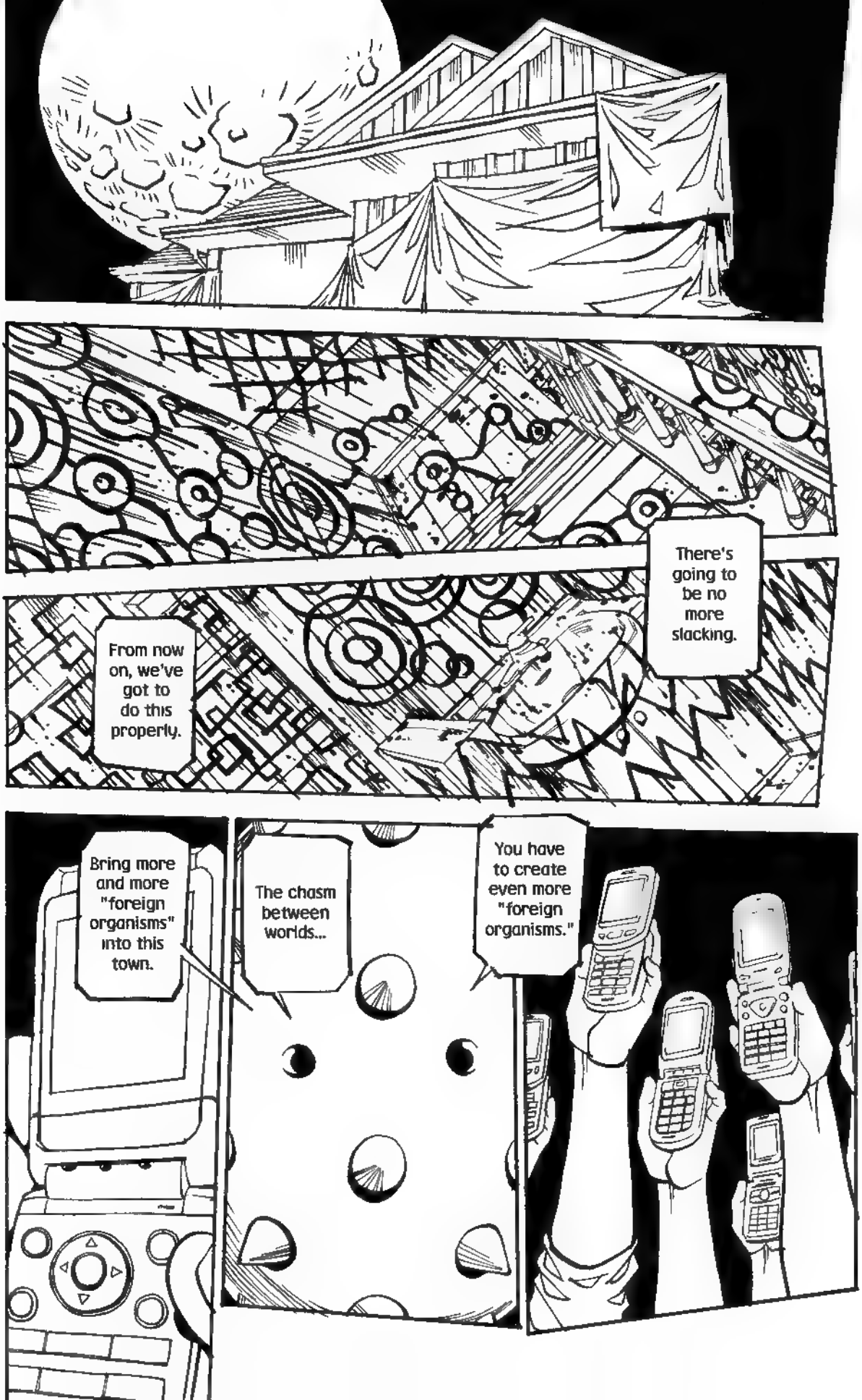

The democratic government was still new at the time, and observance of human rights was quite low...
RUCK
...so many of the mentally disturbed criminals were sent off to facilities to die in seclusion.
RUCK
RUCK

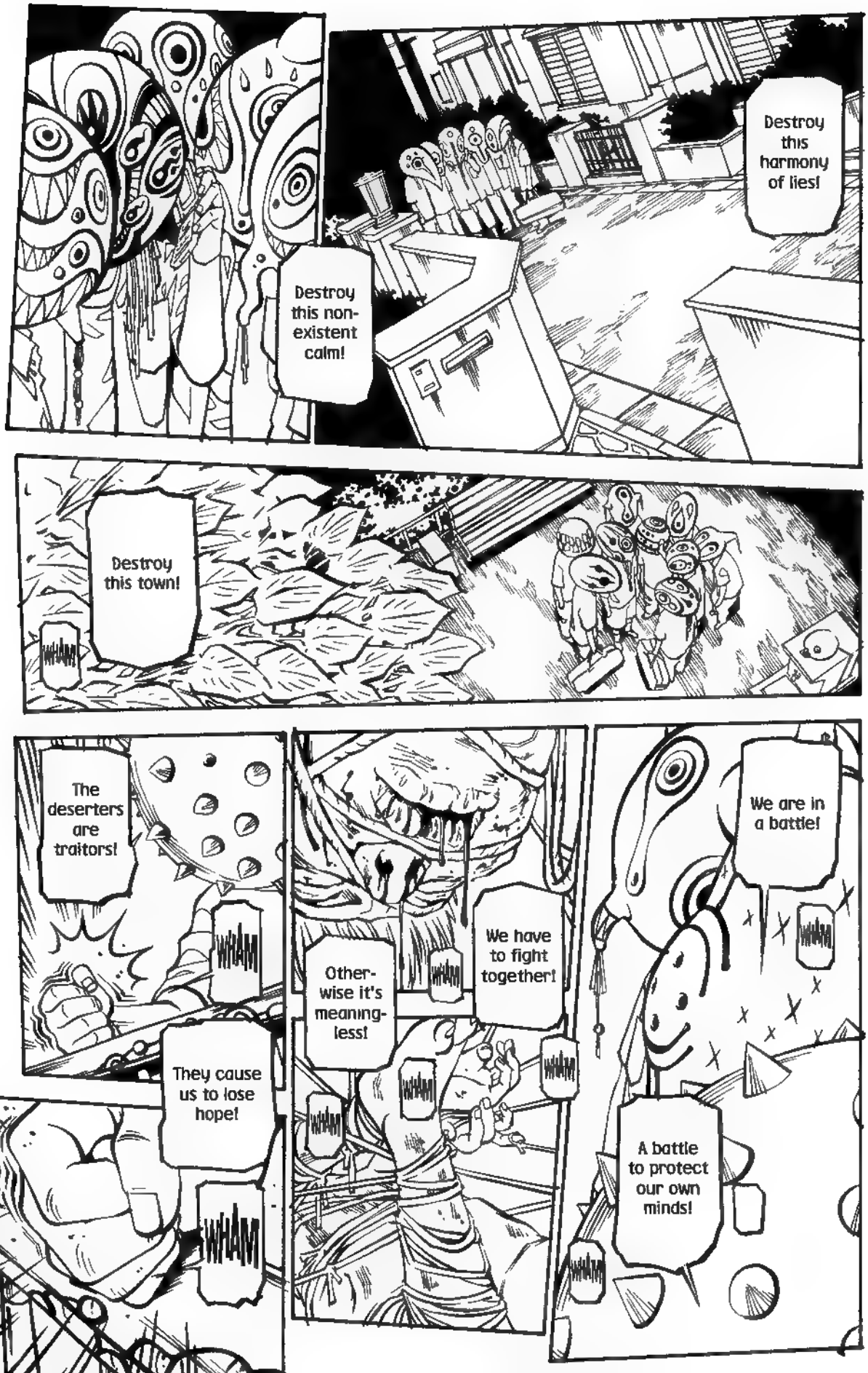
Back then... And in present-day "Soil..."
I-I have to find out what was happening...
RUCK
RUCK
RUCK

...
The blind-folded man...?
Y-you're going to see him...?


I-I have yet to accomplish a single thing as a detective...
A-and if I turn back now...
...I feel as if this case is going to end without any gain whatsoever.
Th-th-that's why I've decided...
...I-I have to find out the truth.
E-even if it means paying for the trip myself...
Your own expense, huh...

Officer Katakuri...
SHUP
Reporting to guard duty of Miss Sayuri!
PULL
...I can't allow an armed man to roam the streets, no matter what he might be!
Then as a police officer...
GRAB
Understood!


From now on, we've got to do this properly.
There's going to be no more slacking.
Bring more and more "foreign organisms" into this town.
The chasm between worlds...
You have to create even more "foreign organisms."


Destroy this non-existent calm!
Destroy this harmony of lies!
Destroy this town!
The deserters are traitors!
WHAM
They cause us to lose hope!
WHAM
Other-wise it's meaning-less!
We have to fight together!
We are in a battle!
A battle to protect our own minds!

No one!
From now on, no one can quit!
WHAM

Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
That's right.
Is that what "he" told you?
That's what "he" told me.
And the "foreign organisms" are coming in.
The chasm has already opened.
...
...

That blind-folded man is a symbol of our fear.
You can't be scared of anything.
We must vanquish the fear that lies within us.
This is a ghost hunt!

SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
WOOOOO
FLAFF
FLAFF
GCHAK
WOOOOO

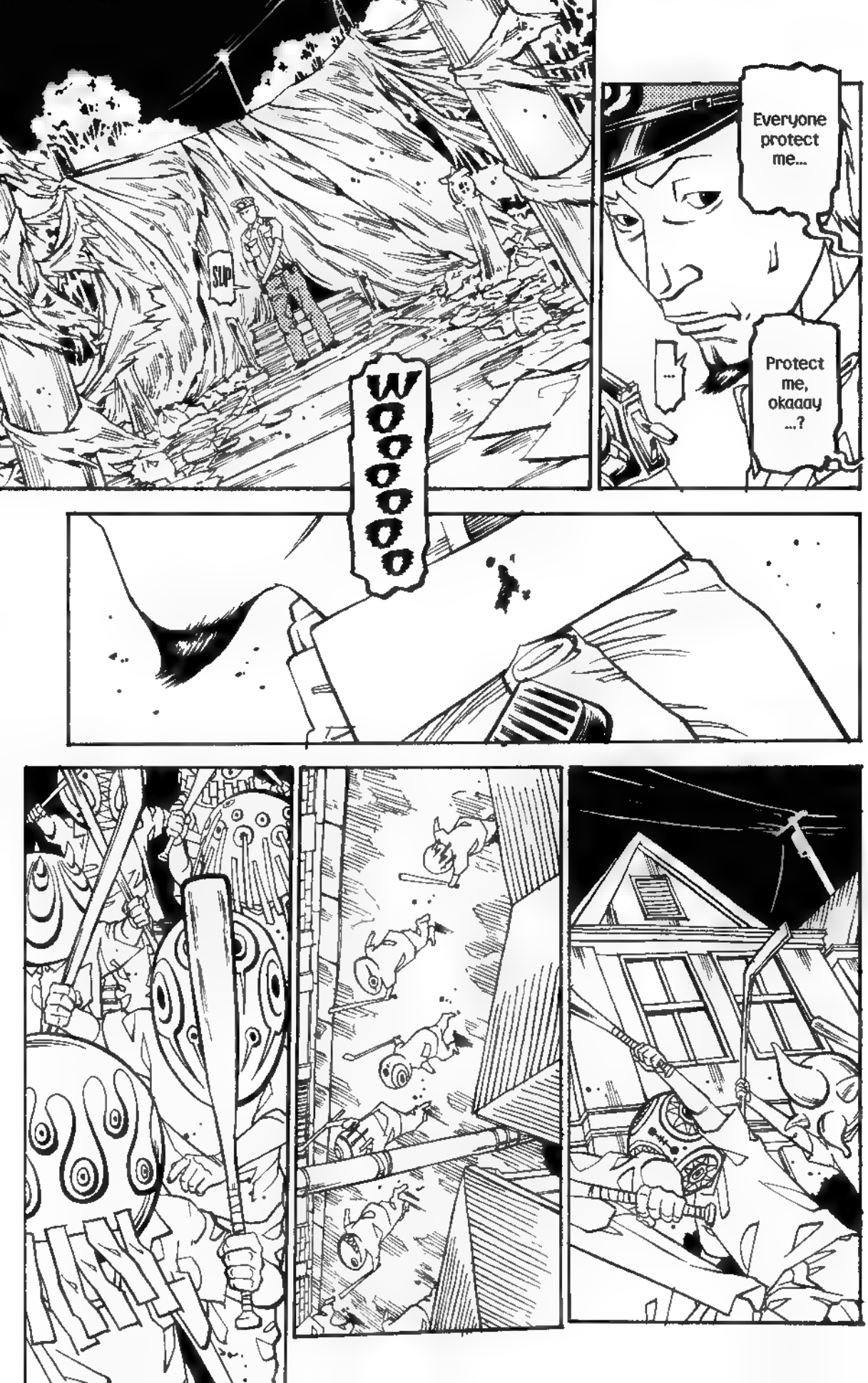
WOOOOOSHH

SOIL
Block 2-12 [End]

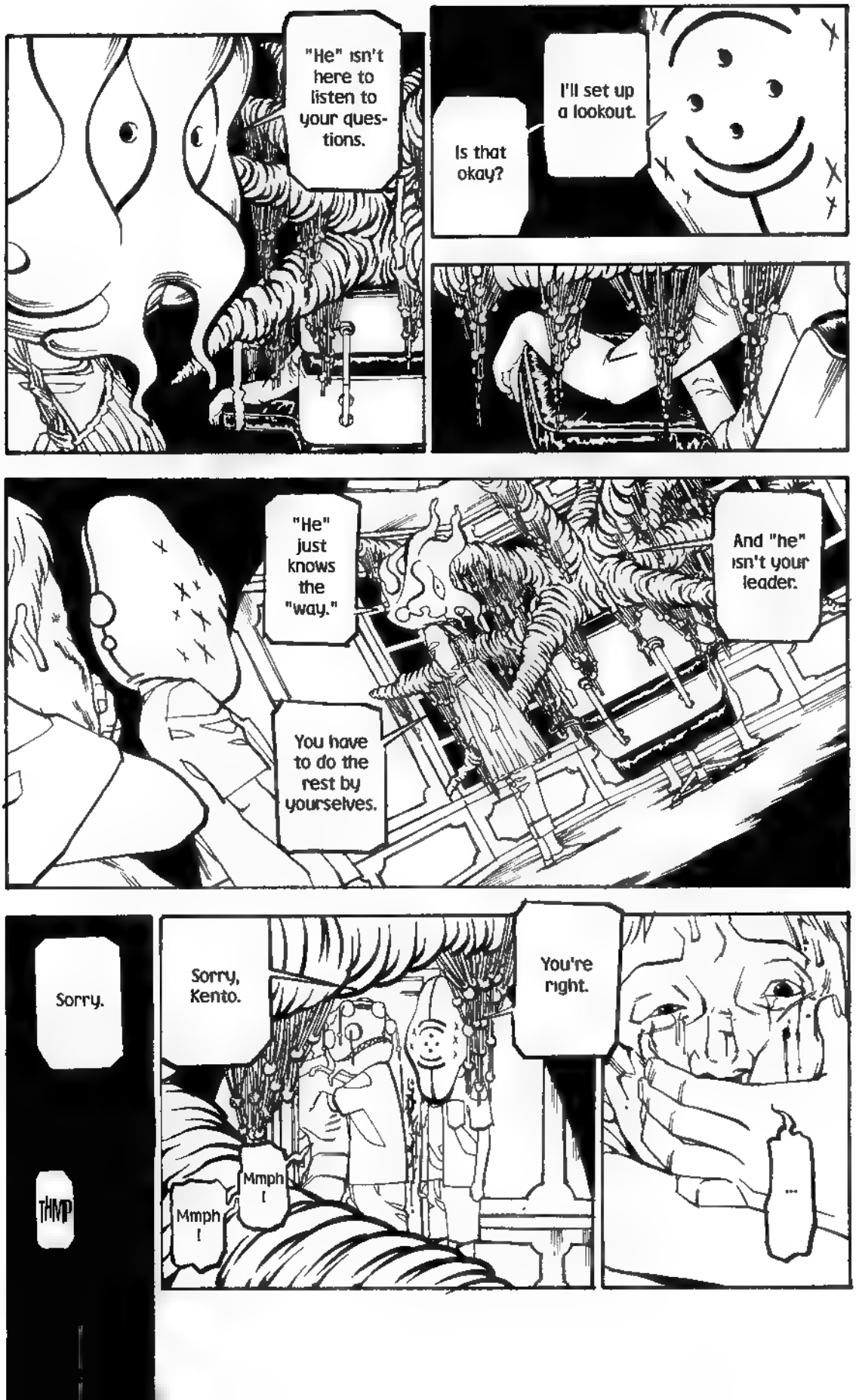
SOIL
Block 2-13 [The Blindfolded Man]

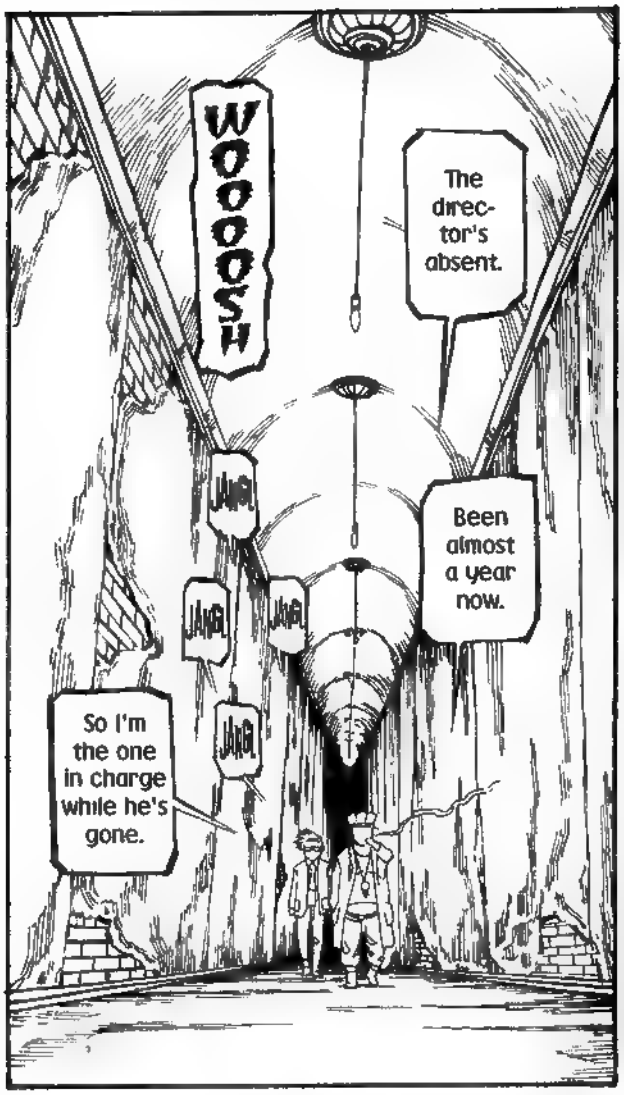
BLOCK 2-13
ZHA
ZHA
ZHA

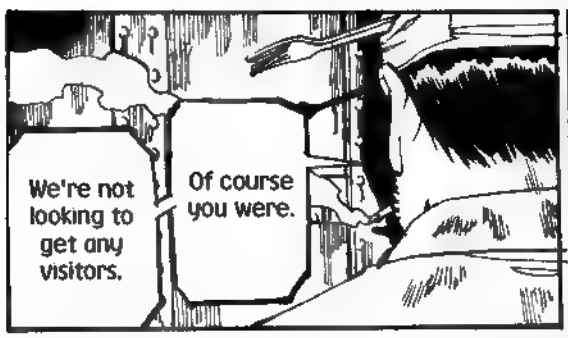
[The Blindfolded Man]


SLIP
WOOOOOO
Everyone protect me...
...
Protect me, okaaay ...?

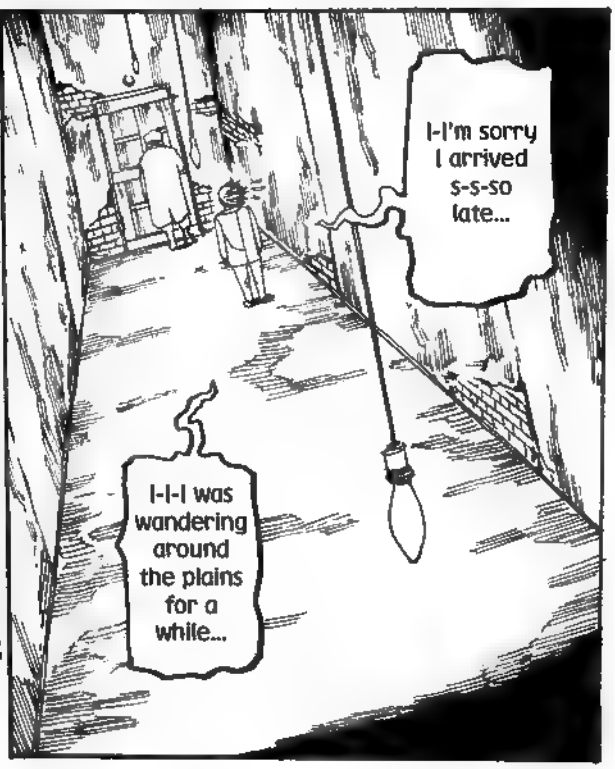
I don't want this!
I don't want this anymore!
THMP
!!
You're the only one who can still--
Please, Kento!
Every-one's gone crazy!
Please make them stop!
We're only going to let the top-level kids into this room from now on.
Mmph!
Umph!
Sorry about this, Kento.


"He" isn't here to listen to your questions.
I'll set up a lookout.
Is that okay?
"He" just knows the "way."
You have to do the rest by yourselves.
And "he" isn't your leader.
Sorry.
THMP
Sorry, Kento.
Mmph !
Mmph !
You're right.
...

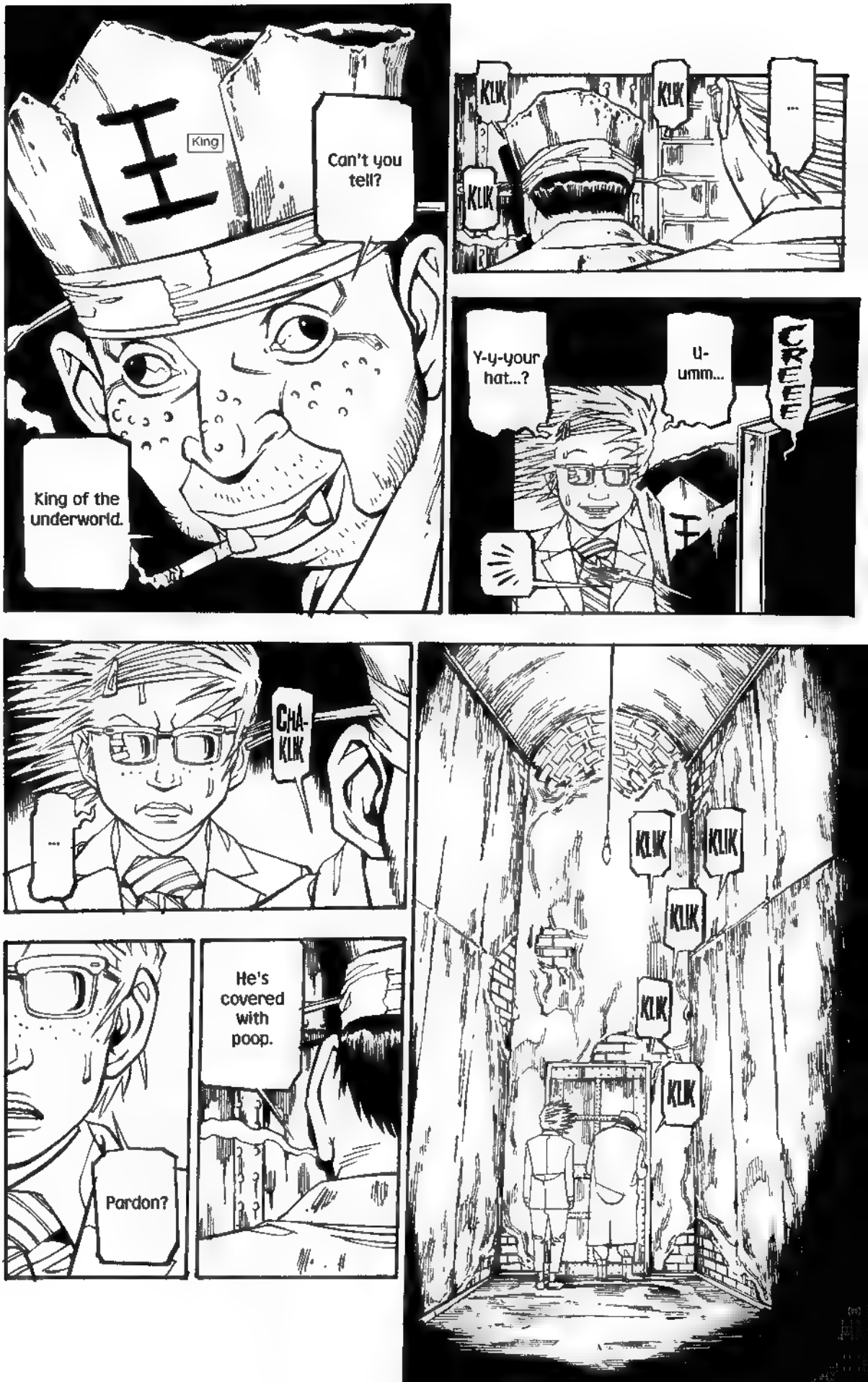

WOOOOSH
The director's absent.
Been almost a year now.
So I'm the one in charge while he's gone.

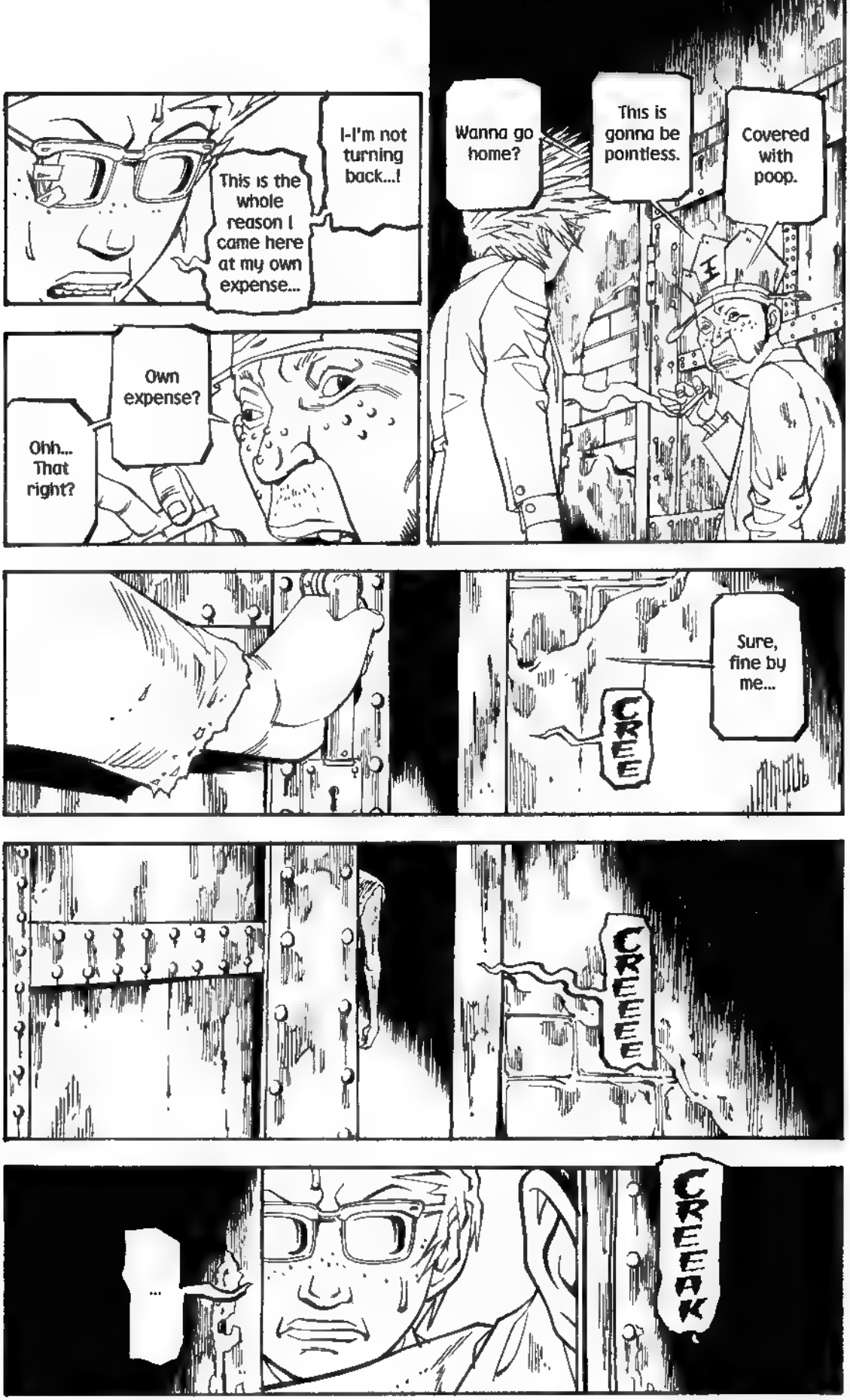

We're not looking to get any visitors.
Of course you were.

...
CREEE


I-I'm sorry I arrived s-s-so late...
I-I-I was wandering around the plains for a while...

...this place isn't even supposed to exist.
After all...
Times've changed.
Can't set 'em free, but can't kill 'em either.
Don't know where to keep 'em.
They got no choice but to put all of 'em in here.
...

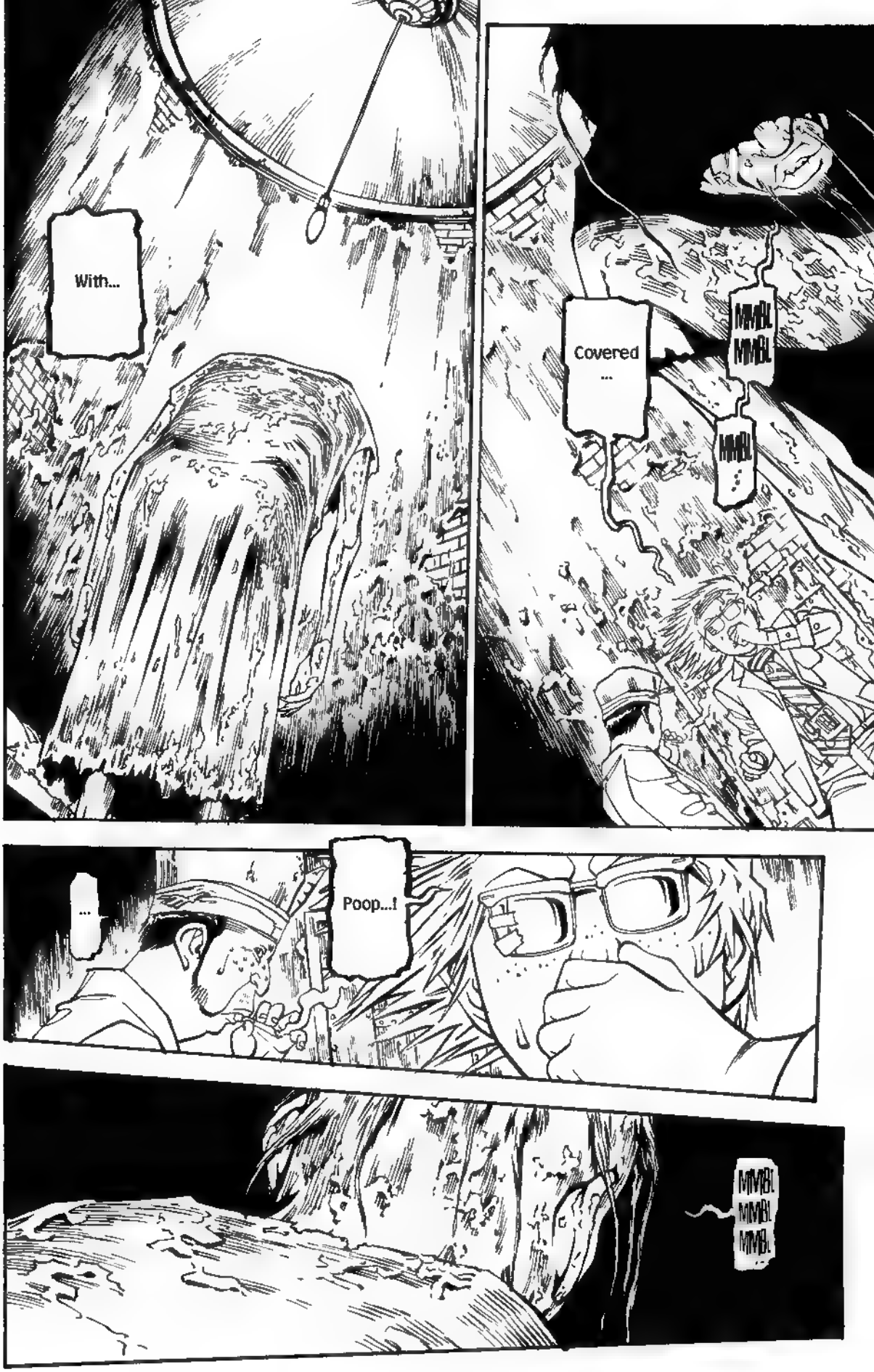

King
Can't you tell?
King of the underworld.
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
...
Y-y-your hat...?
U-umm...
CREEE
CHA-KLIK
...
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
He's covered with poop.
Pardon?


I-I'm not turning back...!
This is the whole reason I came here at my own expense...
Own expense?
Ohh... That right?
Wanna go home?
This is gonna be pointless.
Covered with poop.
Sure, fine by me...
CREE
CREEEE
...
CREEAK

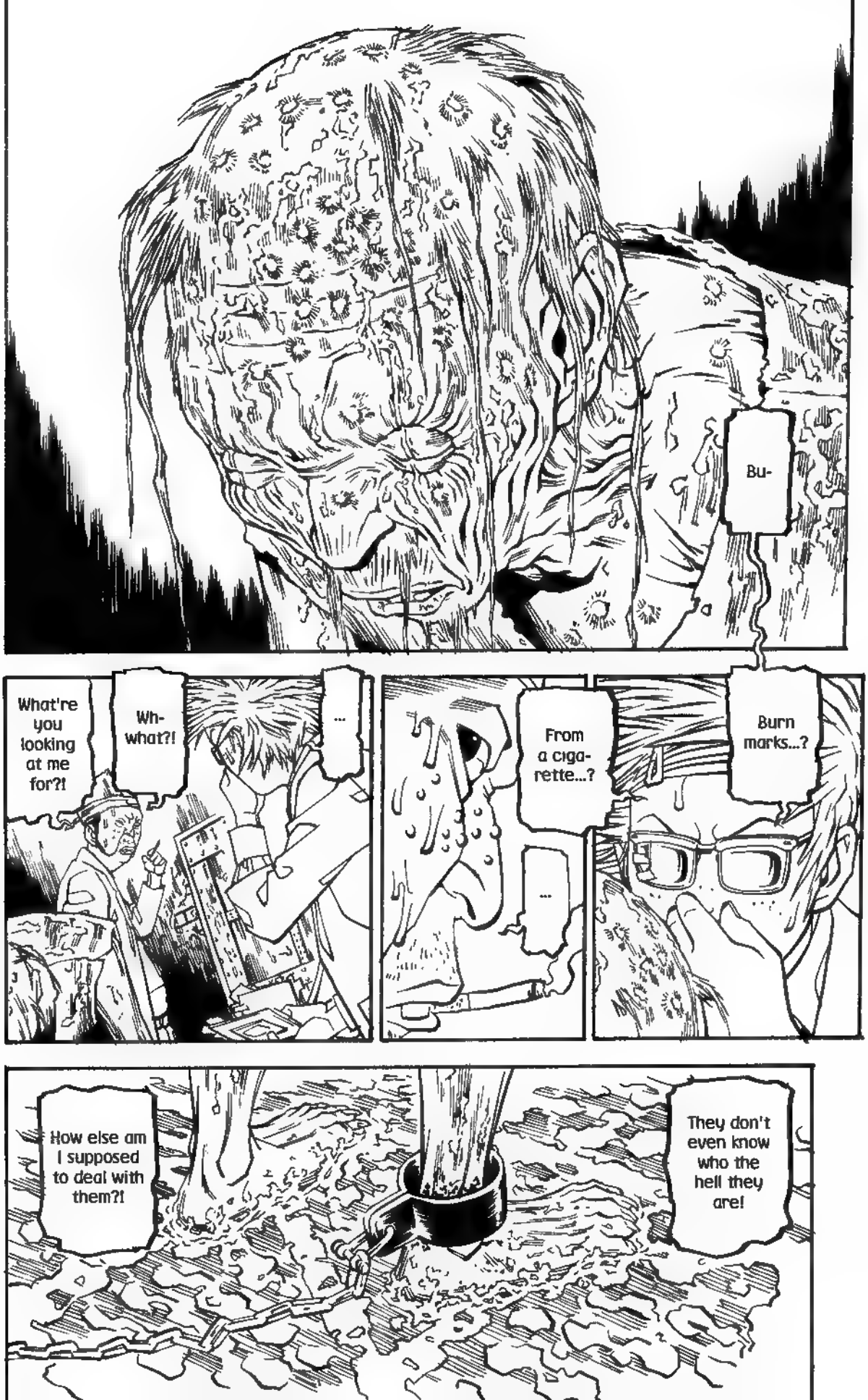
Eek!
Shit...
GRIP

Whoahh! There he is!
Over there!
Th-th-the blind-folded man!

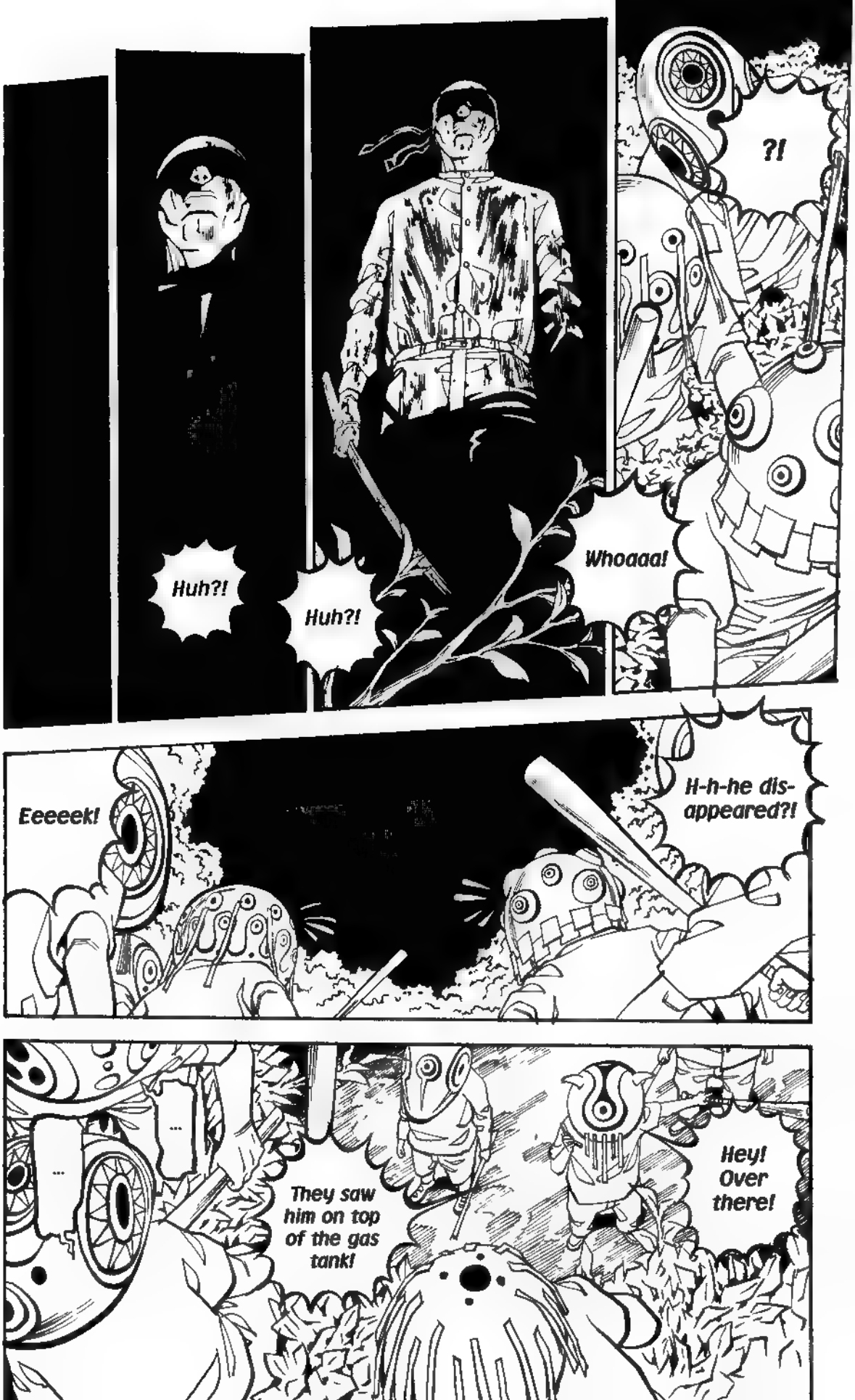
Let's kill him!
All right, bring it on!
This is a ghost hunt!
Yannnnnn!!
RSSH
RSHH
RSTL
Gwonnnnn!!


With...
Covered ...
MMMBL MMMBL
MMMBL
...
Poop...!
...
MMMBL MMMBL MMMBL

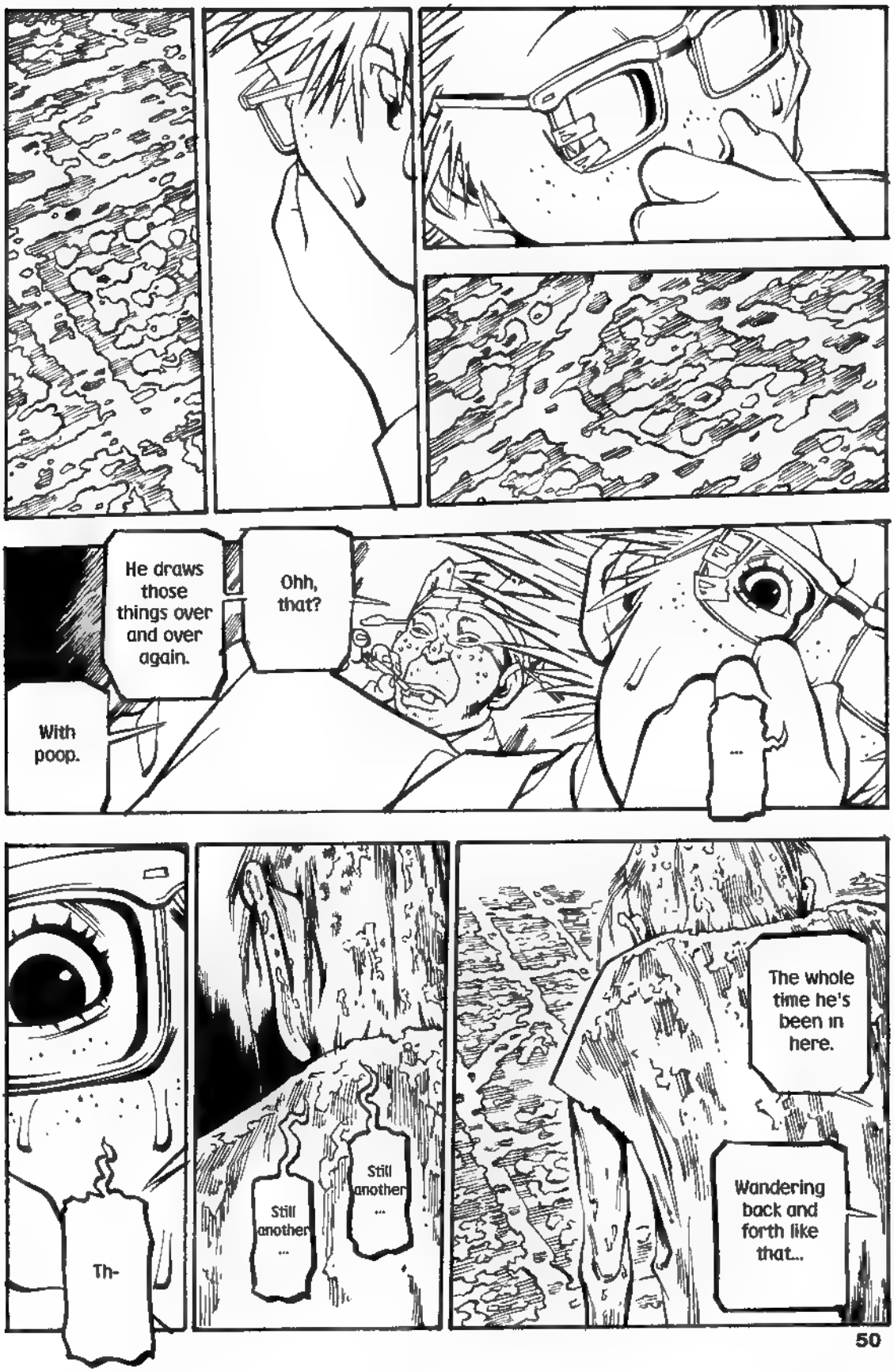
...
I-I-I am Detective Onoda. I've come from Kamikawa Police Station at my own expense!
Excuse me!
E-e-
SWUP
Wanna leave?
He's totally nuts.
See? I told you.
N-no... Th-this poop is nothing...
GLITCH
GLITCH
D-do you remember Detective Yomogida ...?
...
...wanted to talk to you about the Soiru Village case.
I-I...
!!!
What about Detective Tendo...?
Wh-wh-wh-

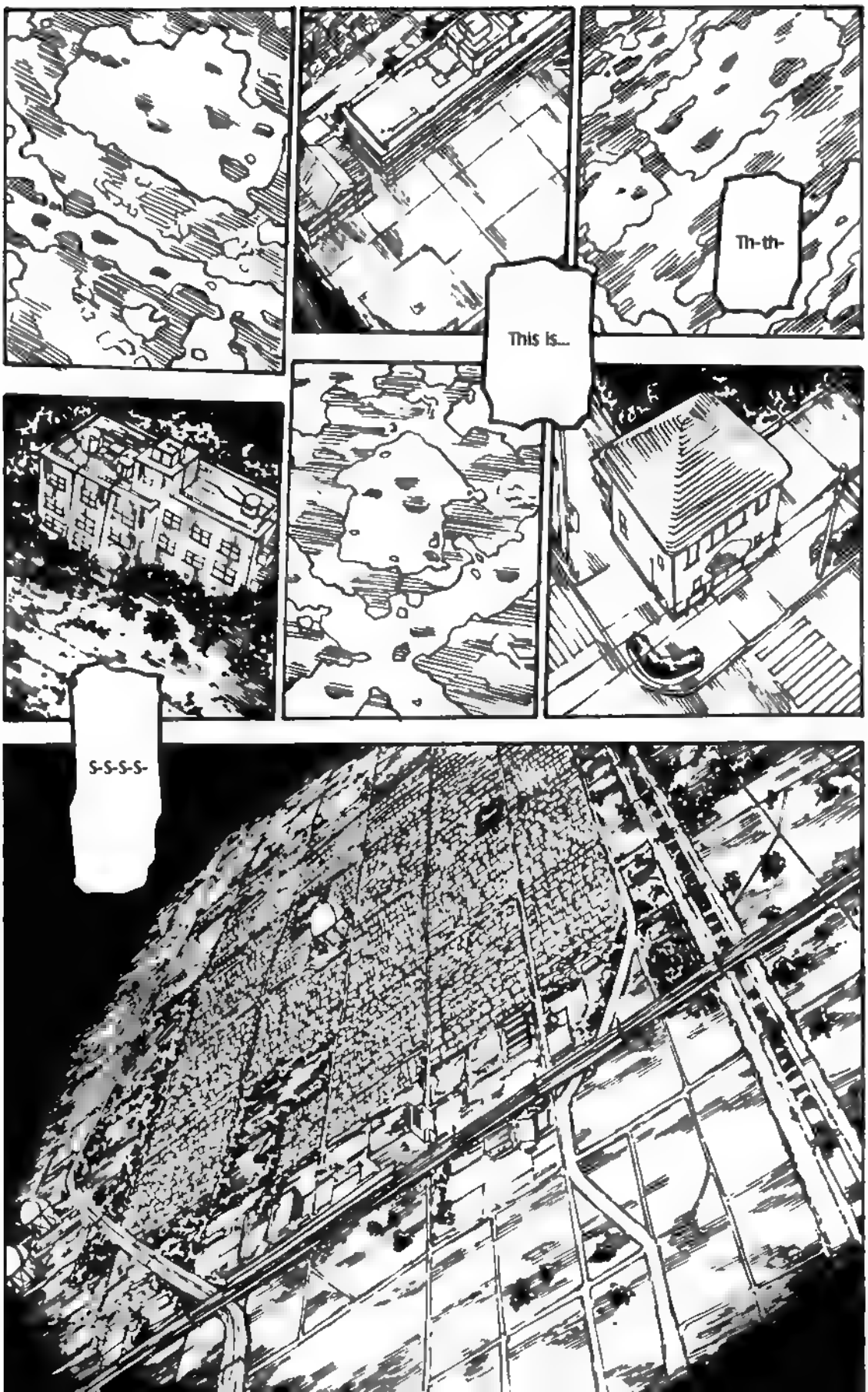

Bu-
What're you looking at me for?!
Wh-what?!
...
From a cigarette...?
...
Burn marks...?
How else am I supposed to deal with them?!
They don't even know who the hell they are!

D-d-don't get pissy with me, damn bitch!
Th-that's an archaic conven-tion!
Y-you're wrong!
How come I can't punish them?!
H-h-how come...
Besides, these guys won't get charged for anything even if they commit murder!
That's what the last director did, and the one before that, and the one before that!
...still another ...
RATTLE
Gannnnnn!!
Yannnnnn!!
RSHH RSHH
RSHH RSSH RSTL
RSTL RSHH
Still another ...

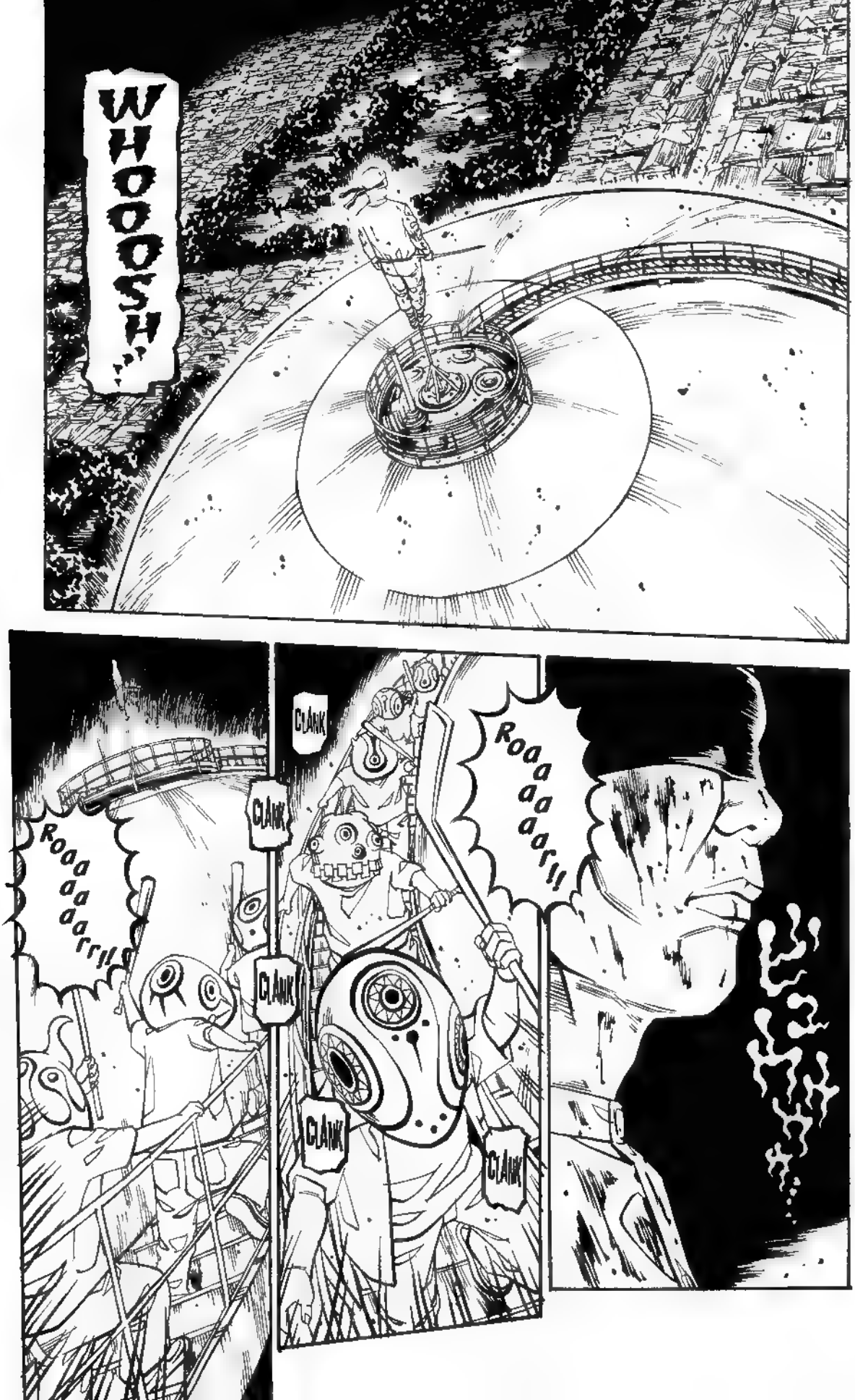

?!
Whoaaa!
Huh?!
Huh?!
Eeeeek!
H-h-he dis-appeared?!
...
...
They saw him on top of the gas tank!
Hey! Over there!

W-we're not scared of anything...!
Yeah!
We're not scared ...!
We're gonna get him!
ZHA
ZHA
Yowwwwww!!

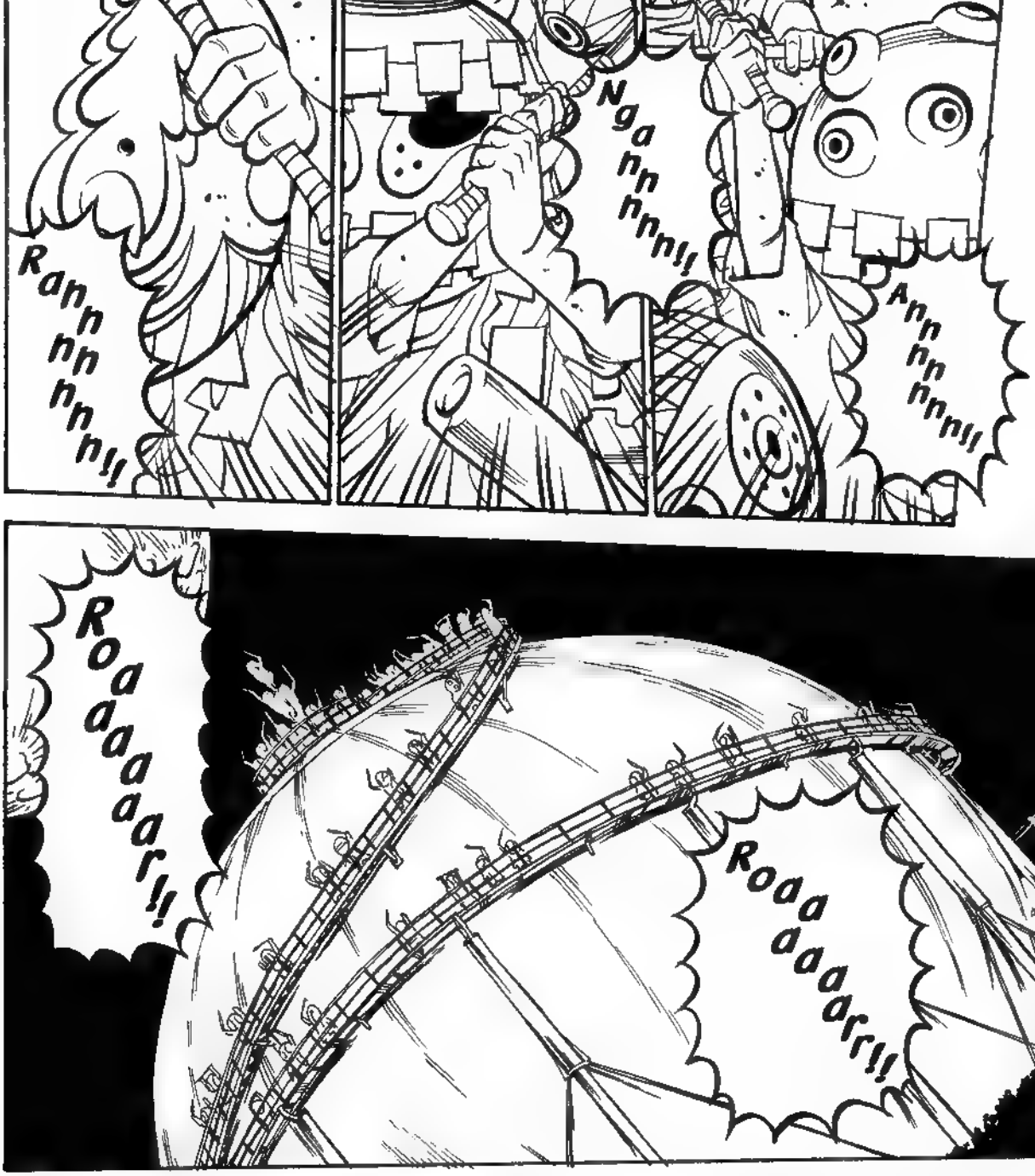

He draws those things over and over again.
Ohh, that?
With poop.
...
Th-
Still another ...
Still another ...
The whole time he's been in here.
Wandering back and forth like that...


Th-th-
This is...
S-S-S-S-

"Soil...?!"


WHOOSH!!
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
Roaaaaarr!!
Roaaaaarr!!

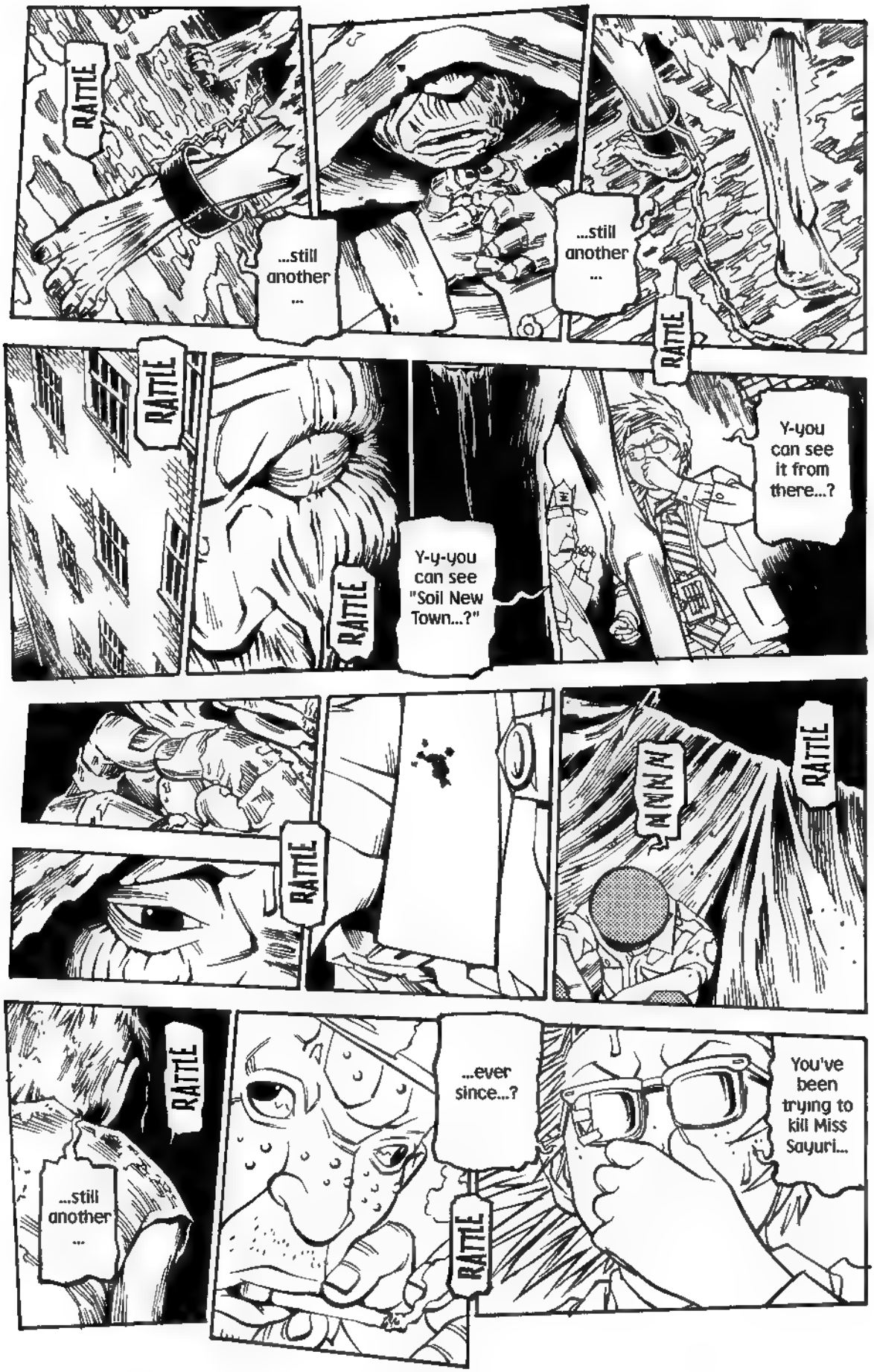
RATTLE
He disap-peared again!
Shit!
Gan nn nnn!!
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
Fucking son of a bitch—!
Ann nn nnn!!
We're gonna kill him! We're gonna kill him!

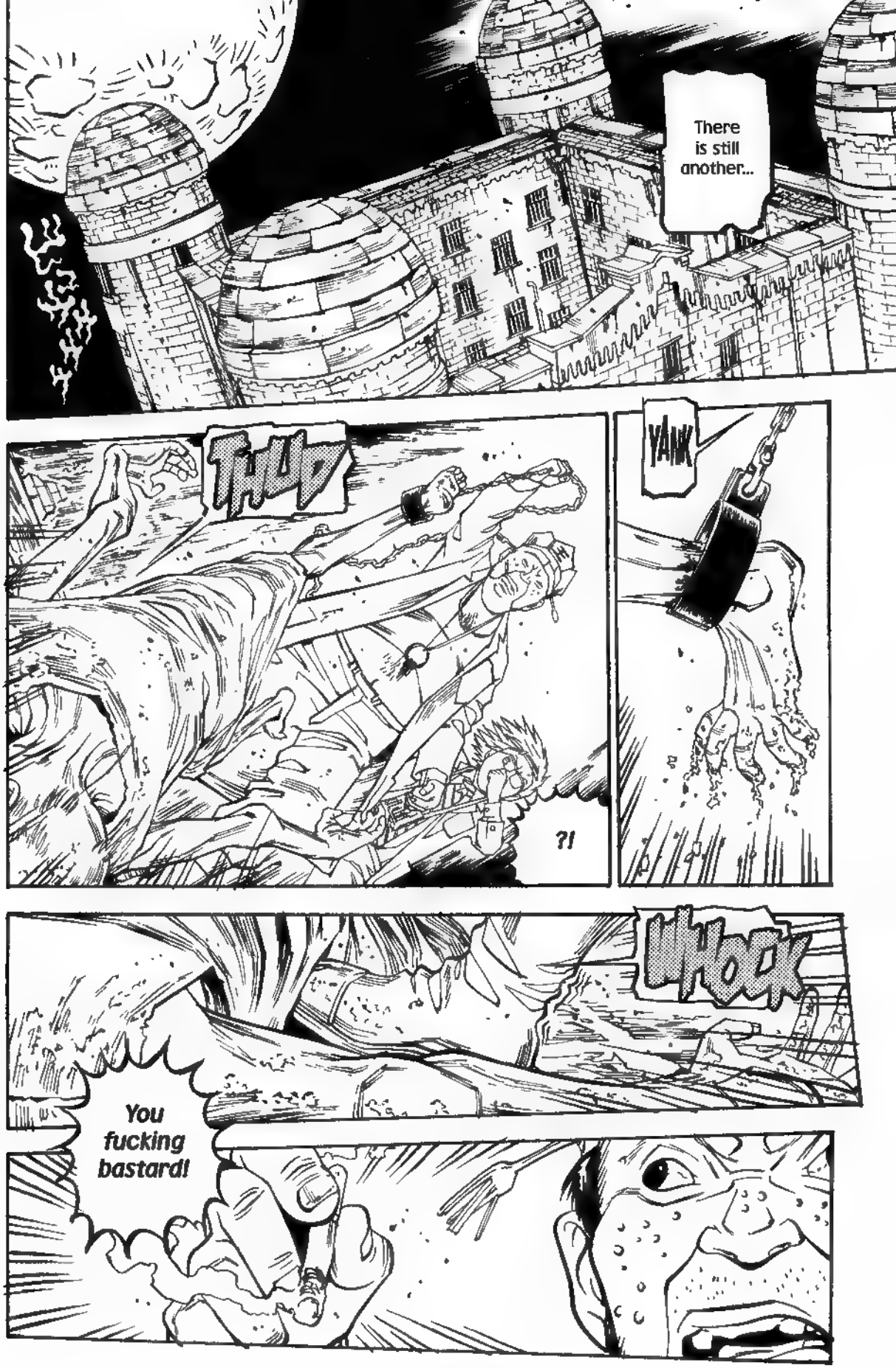

Rannnnnn!!
Ngannnnn!!
Annnnnn!!
Roaaaar!!
Roaaaaar!!
W-with poop...
...S-Soil New Town so accurately...?!
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
H-h-how could he have drawn...

Still another ...
Still another ...
H-has he been searching ...
...ever since...
...Miss Sayuri...?
...for the landlord's daughter...
AAAAA!

SOIL
Block 2-13 [End]

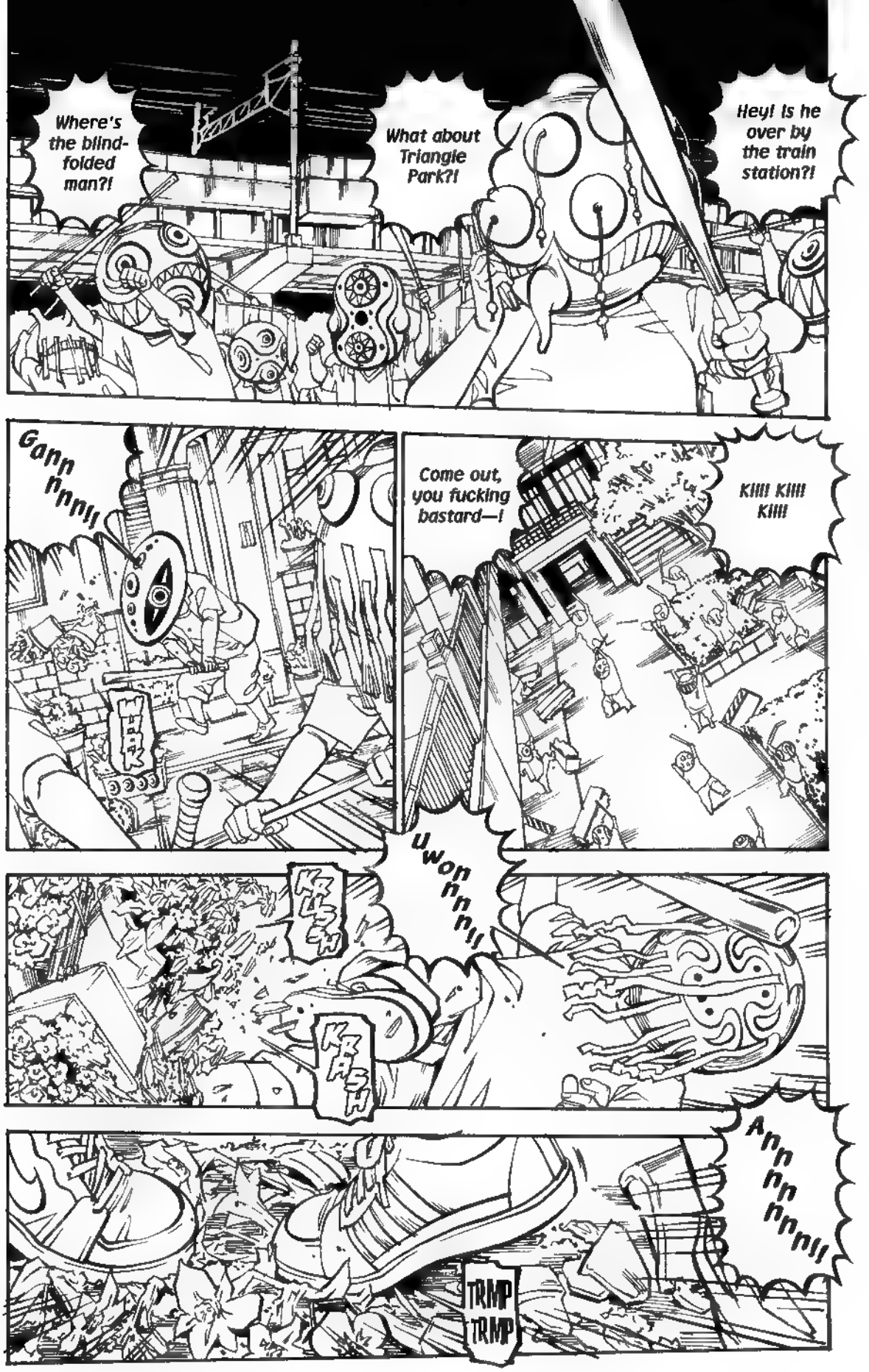
SOIL
Block 2-14 [Fruition]

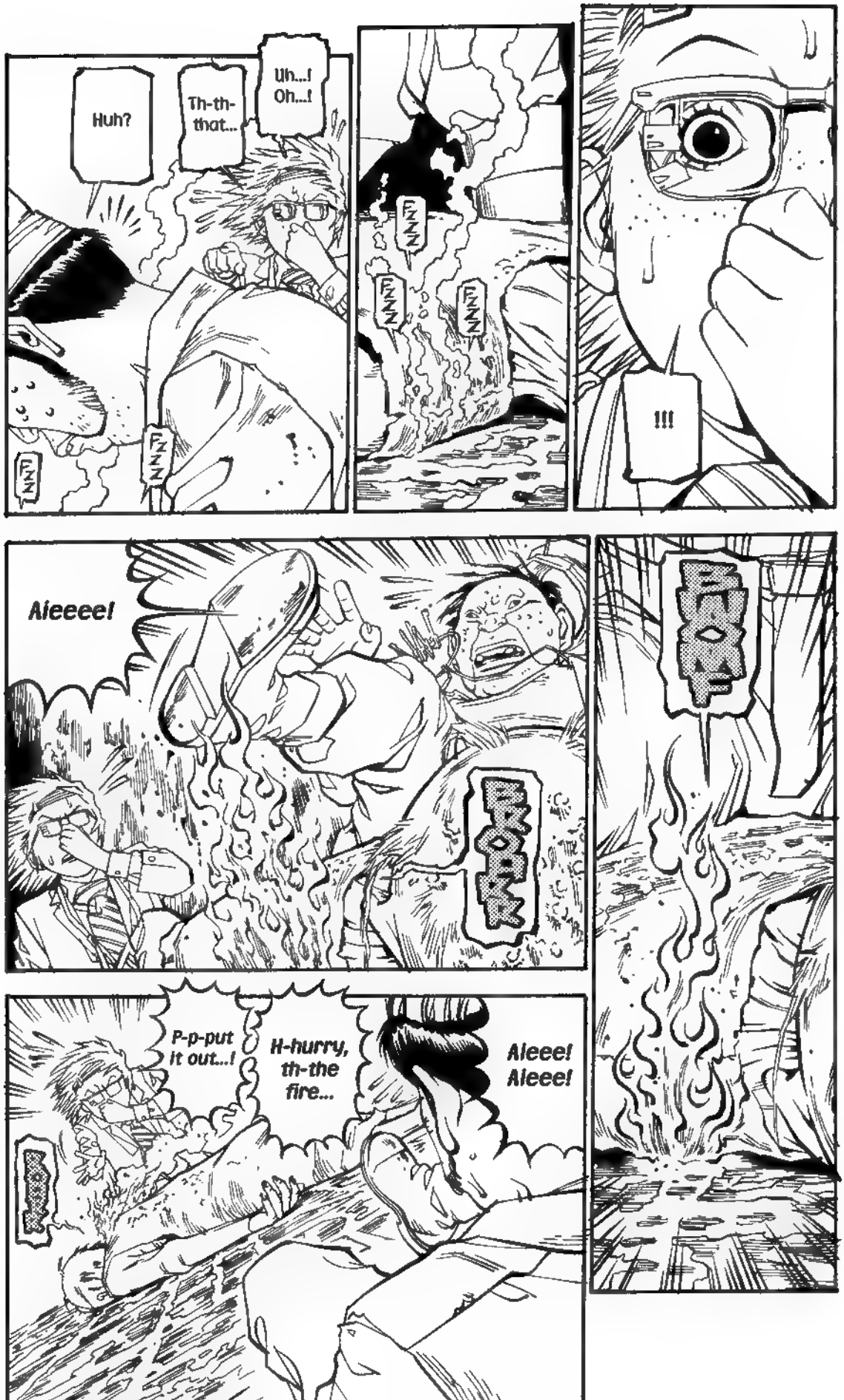

RATTLE
...still another ...
...still another ...
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
Y-y-you can see "Soil New Town...?"
Y-you can see it from there...?
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
...still another ...
...ever since...?
You've been trying to kill Miss Sayuri...

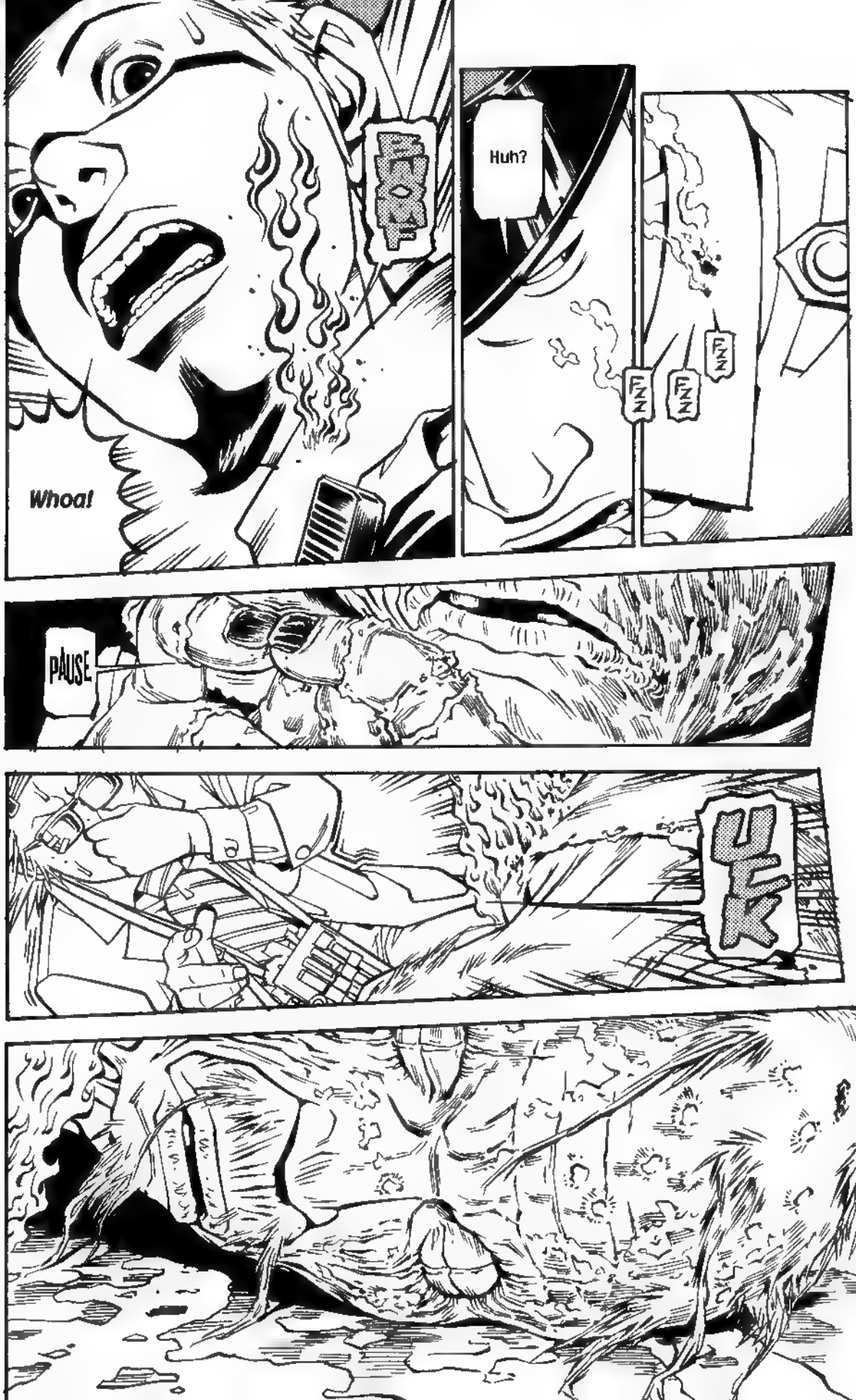

There is still another...
THUD
?!
YANK
WHOOK
You fucking bastard!

S-s-s-s-s-stop it...
FZZZZT
Answer the detective's question!
H-h-heyyyyy!
FZZZT
PLOP
Shut up!
Ack!
I decide what happens to these fuckers!
...
I am the king of the underworld!

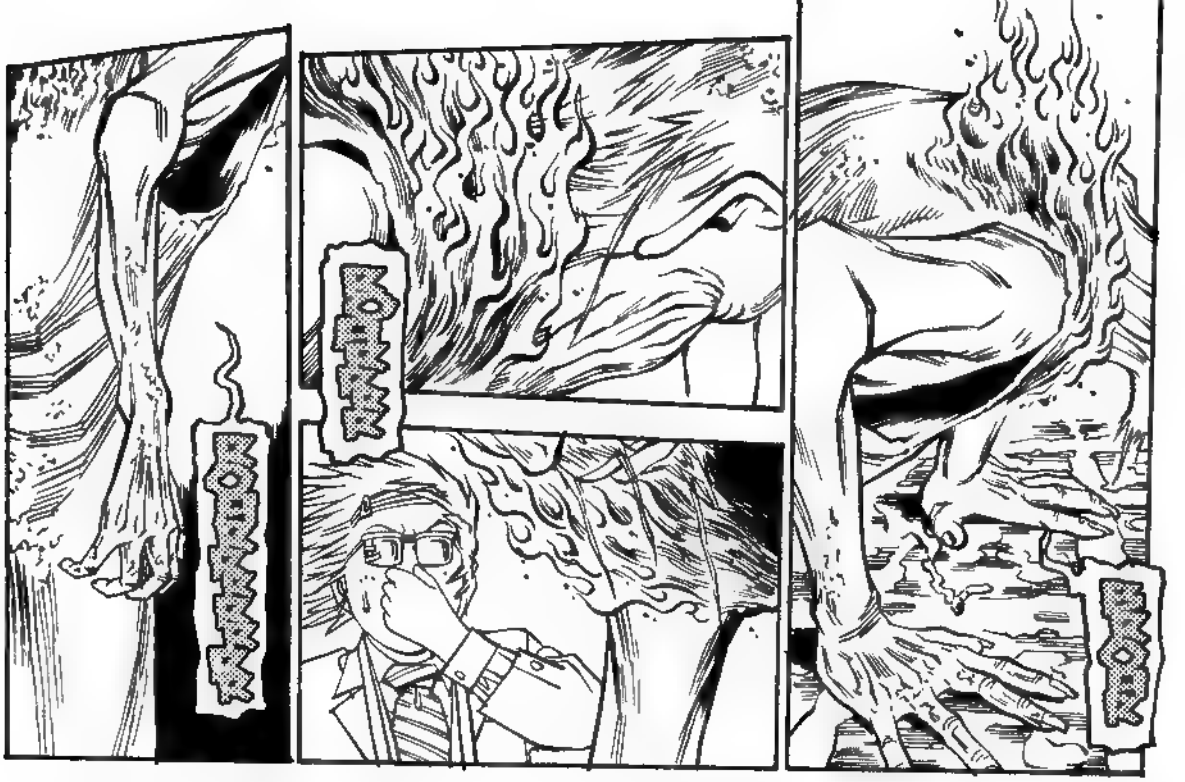
Of this... Realm...
I am... Not...
...there is noth...
...ing... That binds... Me...
I am *there*...
...


Where's the blind-folded man?!
What about Triangle Park?!
Hey! Is he over by the train station?!
Gann nnnn
Come out, you fucking bastard—!
Kiii! Kiii! Kiii!
Uwonnnn
KASH
KASH
Annnnnnn
TRMP
TRMP

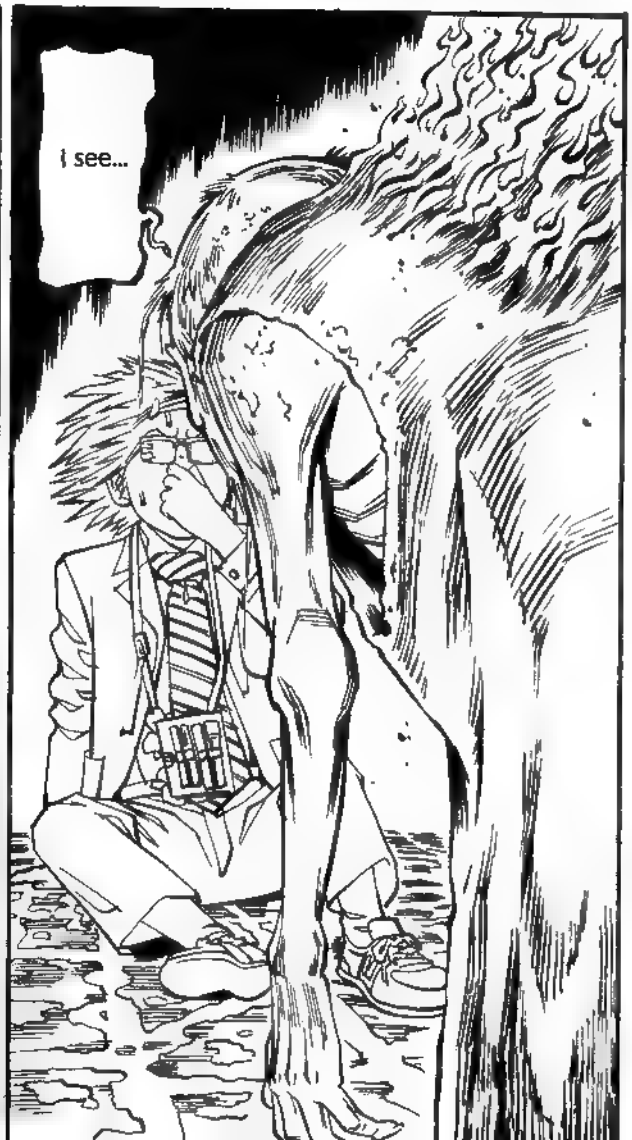

Huh?
Th-th-that...
Uh...! Oh...!
FZZ
FZZZ
FZZZ
FZZZ
!!!
Aieeee!
BLOOD
FLOOP
P-p-put it out...!
H-hurry, th-the fire...
Aieee! Aieee!
BLOOD

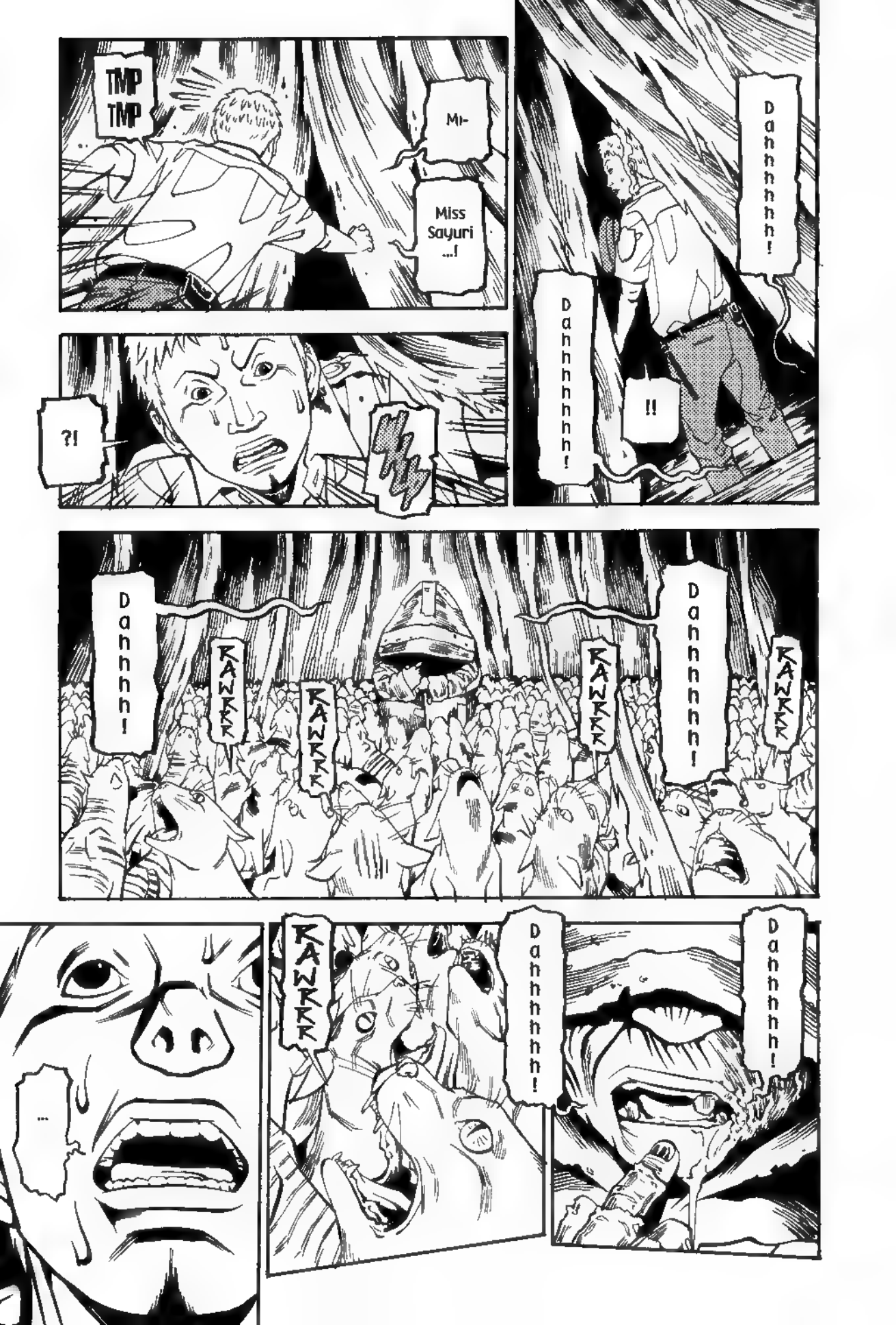

Whoa!
Huh?
FZZ
FZZ
FZZ
PAUSE
UK

What the hell?!
THAP
THAP
Whoaaa! Hot! Hot! Hot!
Ahhhh!
Dahhh ...


KOTOKO
KOTOKO
KOTOKO

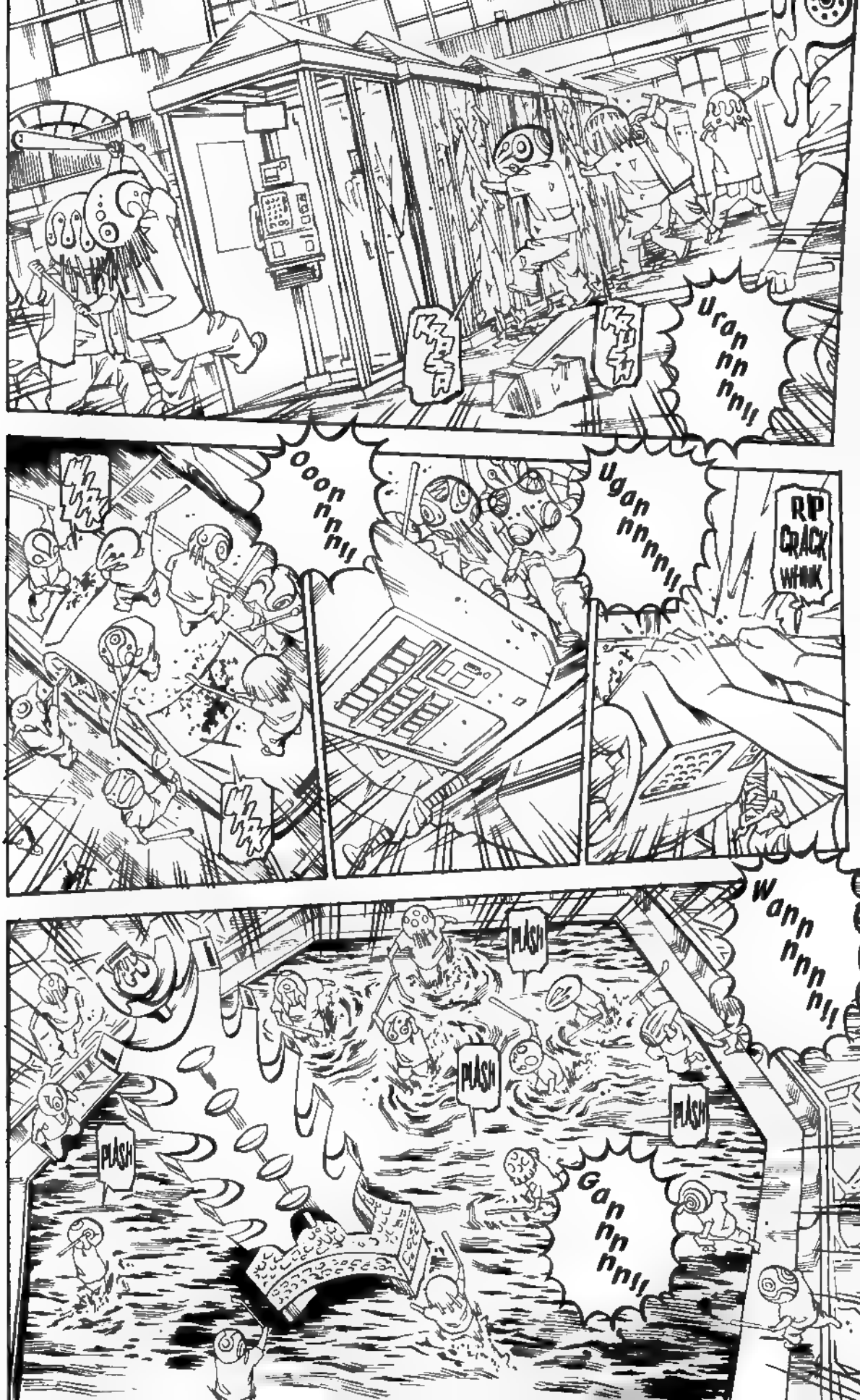
So that's where you were...

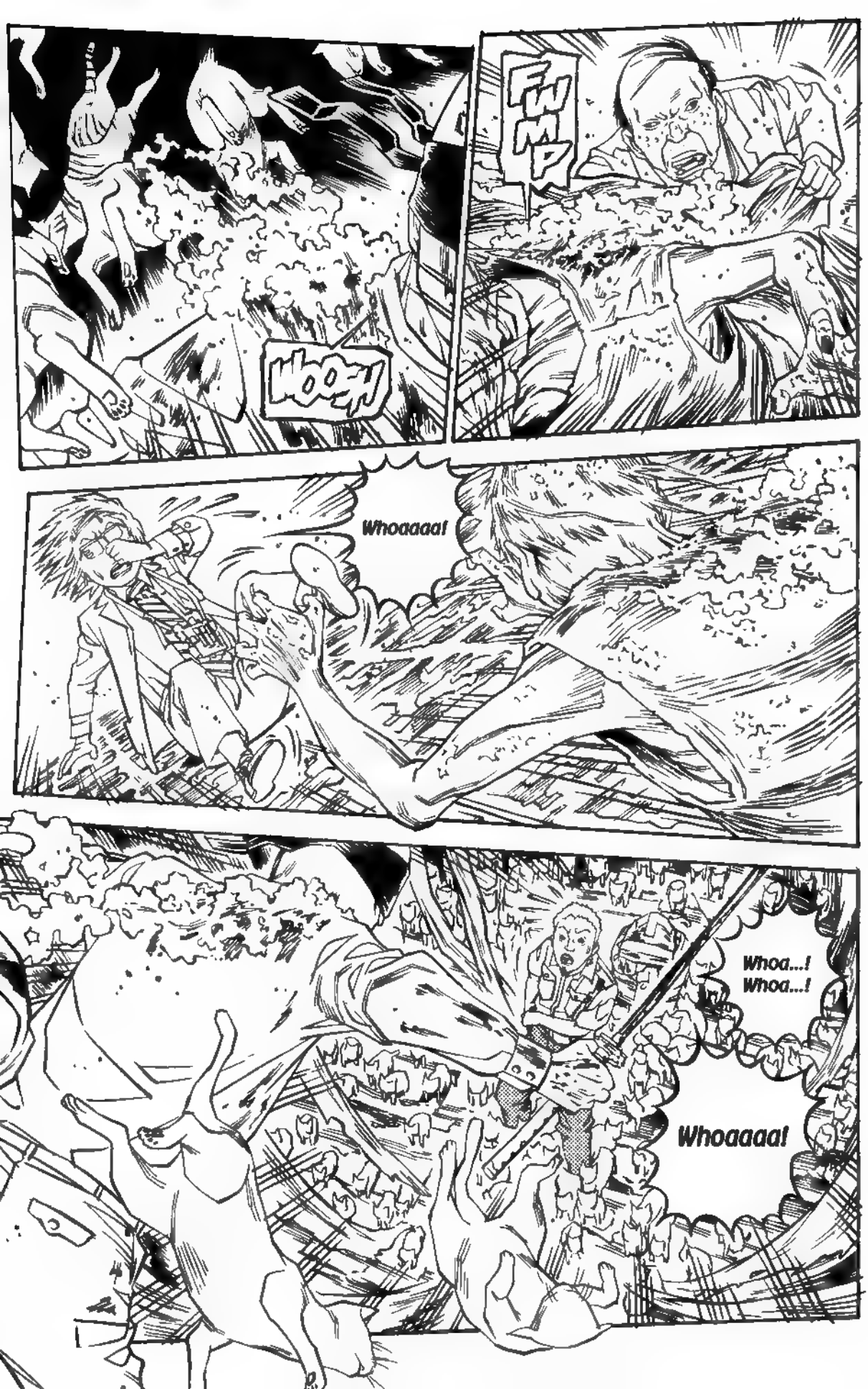

I see...


Dahhhhhh!
Dahhhhhhh!
!!
TMP
TMP
Mi-
Miss Sayuri ...!
?!
Dahhhhhh!
KAWKKK
KAWKKK
KAWKKK
Dahhhh!
Dahhhhhh!
KAWKKK
Dahhhhhh!
...

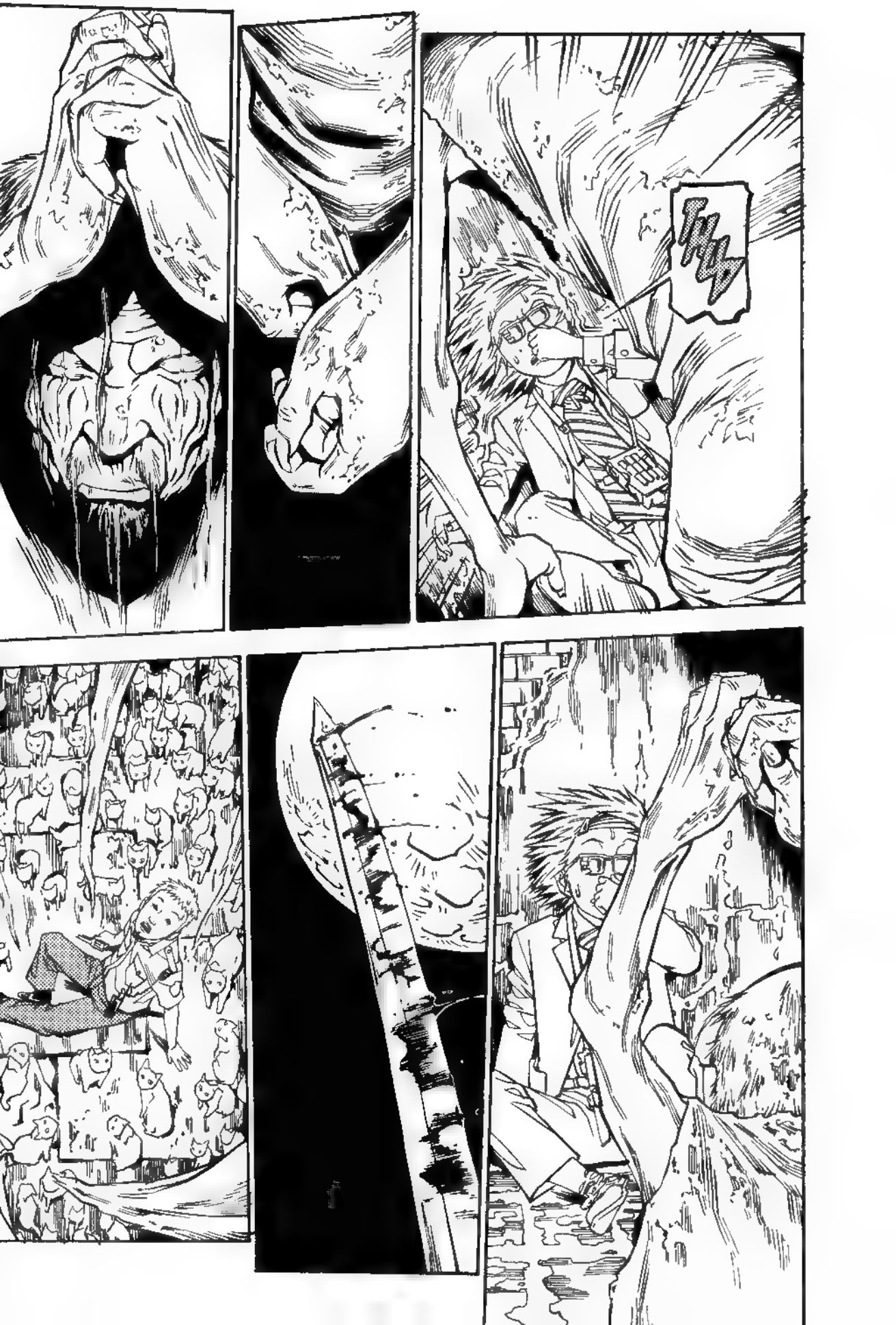
Dahhhhh!
Dahhhhh!
Dahhhhhhhh!
KRAKOOM

WOOOSH
WOOOSH
RAWRRR
RAWRRR
You miserable ...
...sonofa-bitch!
RAWRRR
RAWRRR
You filthy piece of scum! You murderer!
RAWRR
RAWRR
RAWRR
RAWRR
RAWRR


KRAK
KRAK
Uran nnn nn!!
Ooon nnn!!
Ugan nnnnn!!
RIP
CRACK
WHAK
Wann nnnn!!
PLASH
PLASH
PLASH
Gann nnn!!

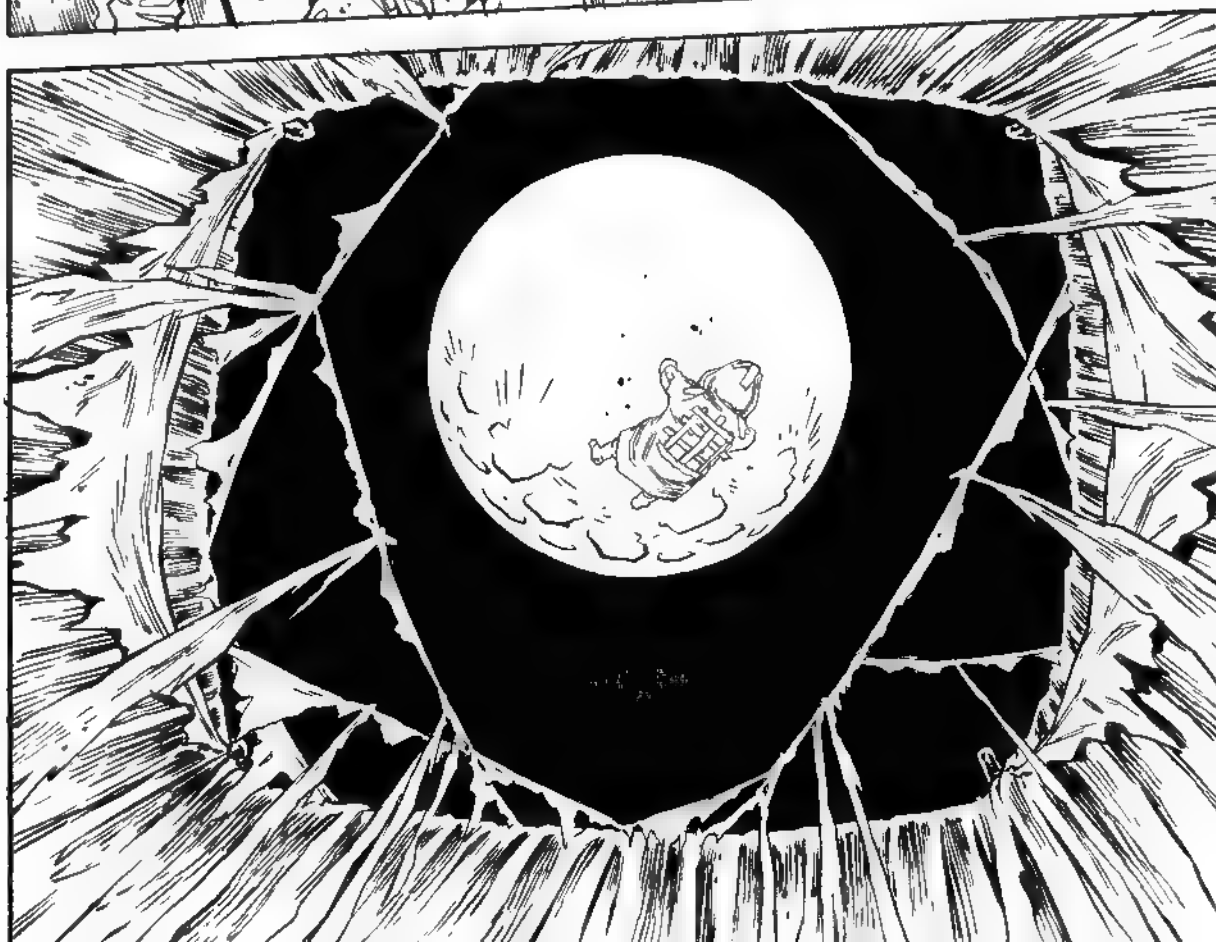

WOOF!
FWAP
Whoaaaa!
Whoa...!
Whoa...!
Whoaaaa!

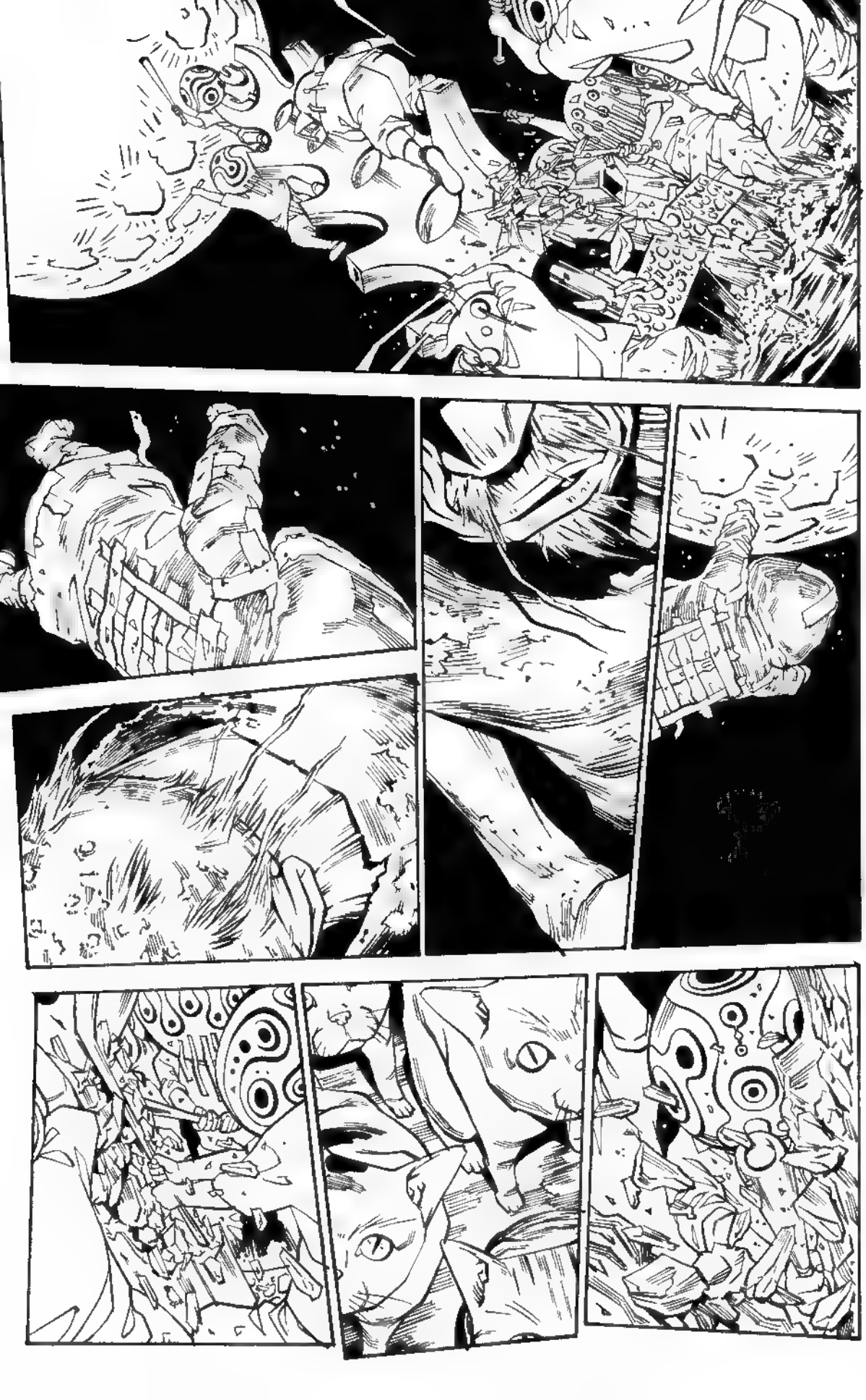
BANG
BANG
BANG
Whoaaa!
TWEE
TWEE
TWEE
Gyahhh!
ZHAA
?!
FWMP



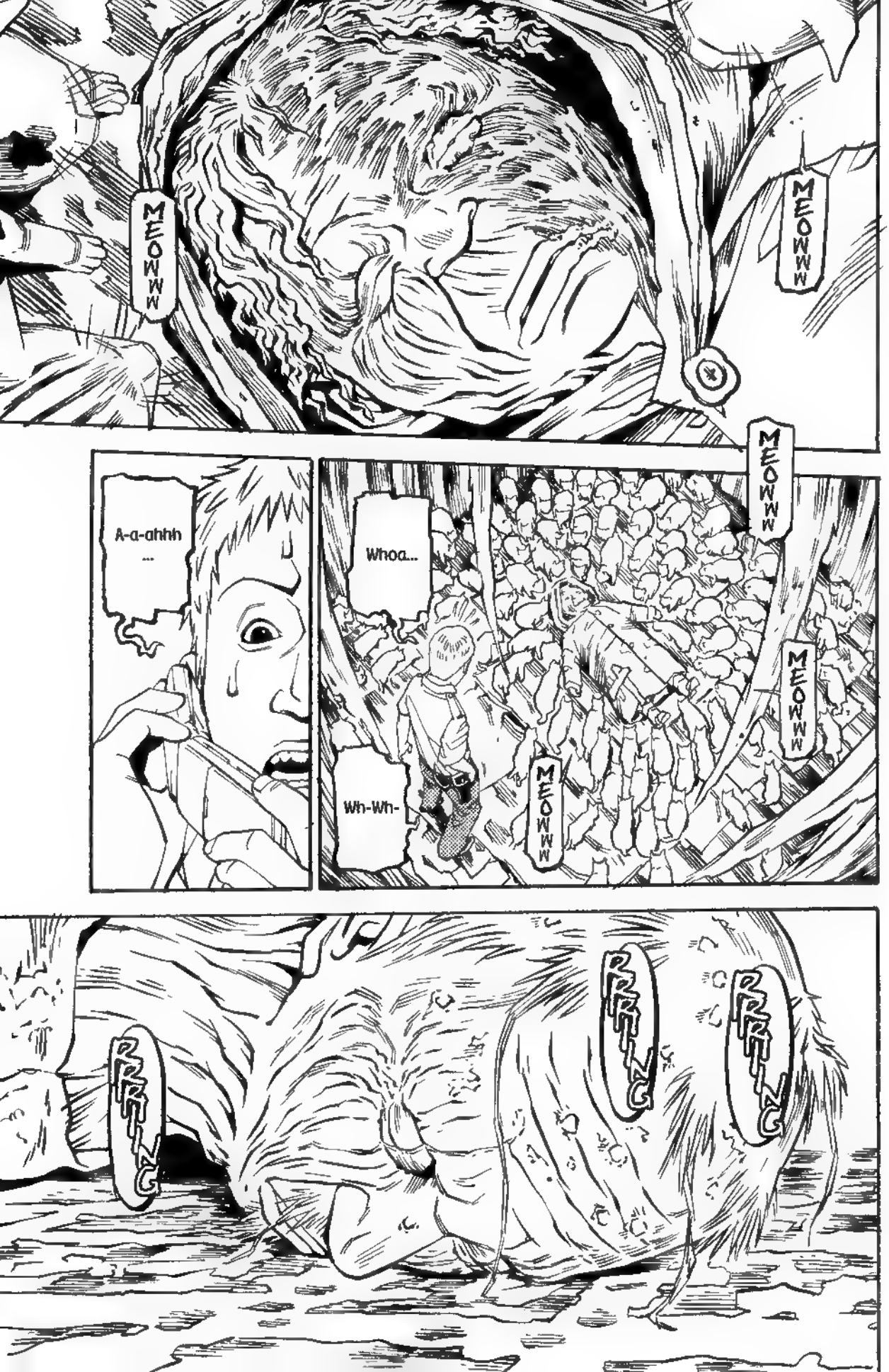
Ahh...
Finally...
BOOM

千月

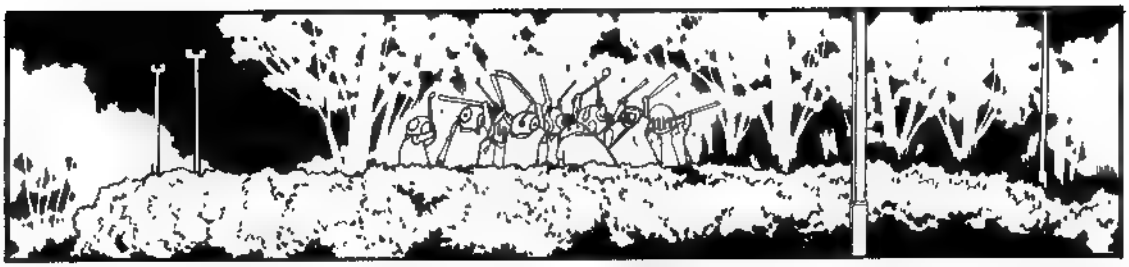




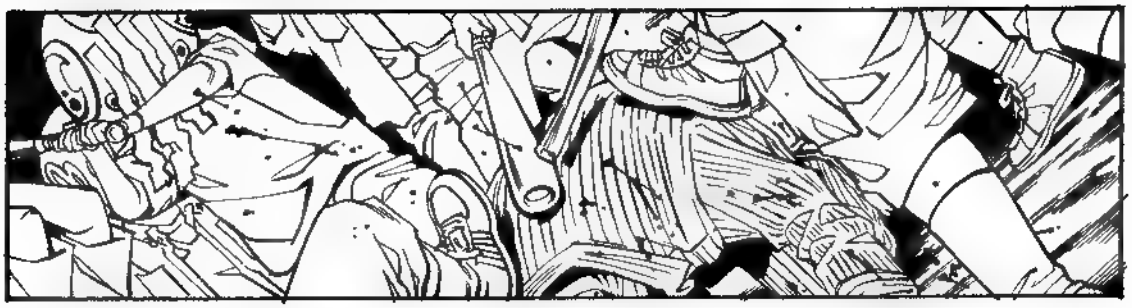
Yeannnn!!
Huzzann!!
Pssshh!
Wann nnn!!
Vsssshh
RSTL
Get him!
There he is! Over there!
It's the blind-folded man!
Uwonnnn!!


MEOWWW
MEOWWW
MEOWWW
MEOWWW
MEOWWW
Whoa...
Wh-Wh-
A-a-ahhh ...
RRRING
RRRING
RRRING

Wha... Wh-wh- what the hell...?
H-h-he's de-de...
He's dead!
RRING
SHEFT
RRING
SHEF
RRING
RRING
Look... You gotta help me out here...!
Please, detective... Okay...?
Hey...
...
RRING
RRING
RRING
Hey, you saw that, didn't you?
Th-this guy died on his own, right?
I-i-it wasn't my fault he died, was it?
RRING
RRING
RRING
D-d-d-don't tell the director anything weird, all right...?
I-I didn't kill him, did I?



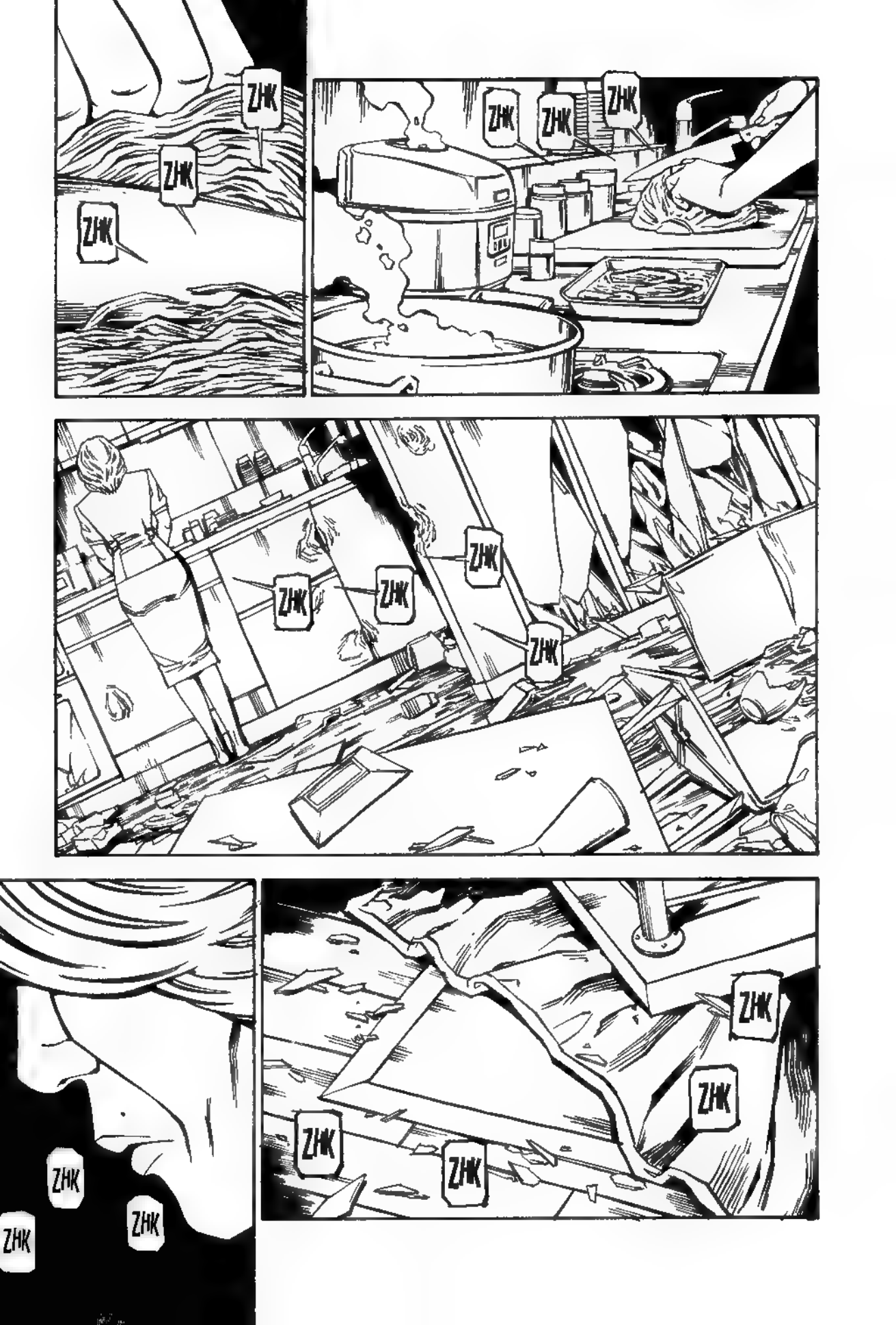
BLOCK 2-14

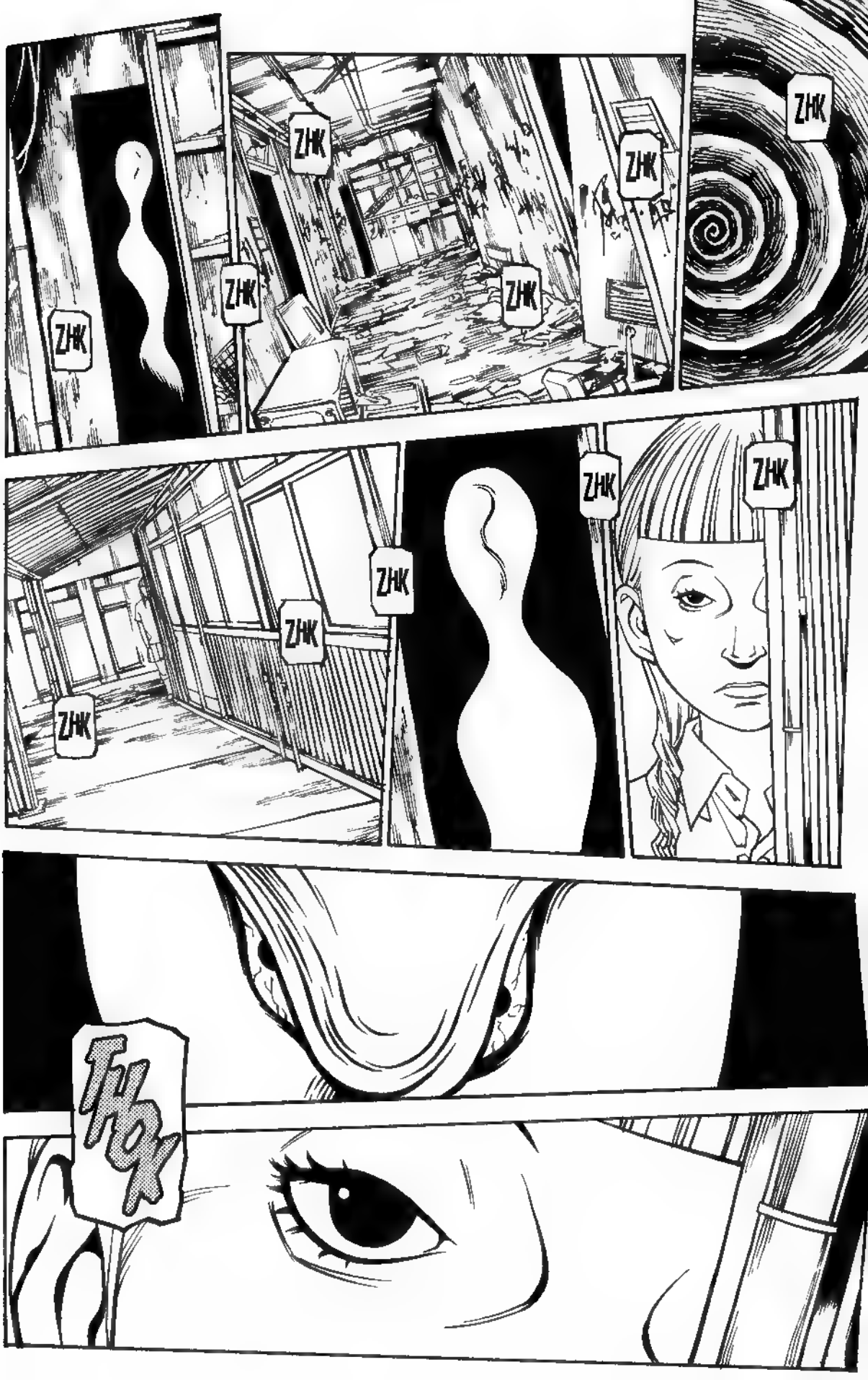


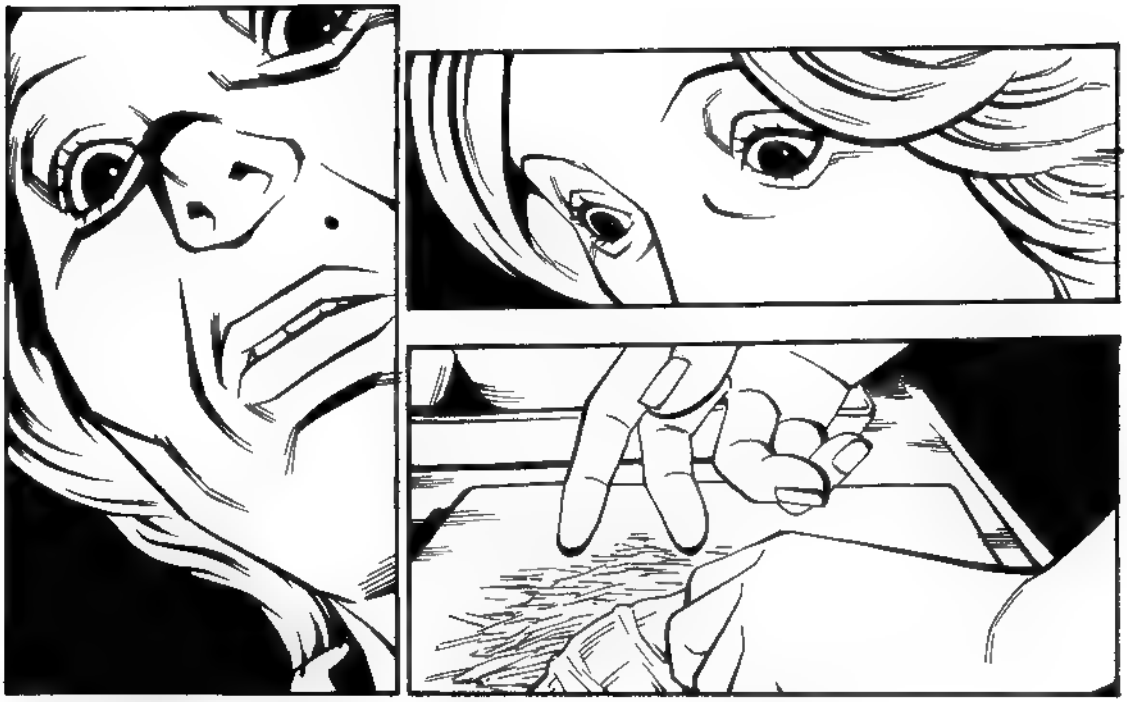
[Fruition]

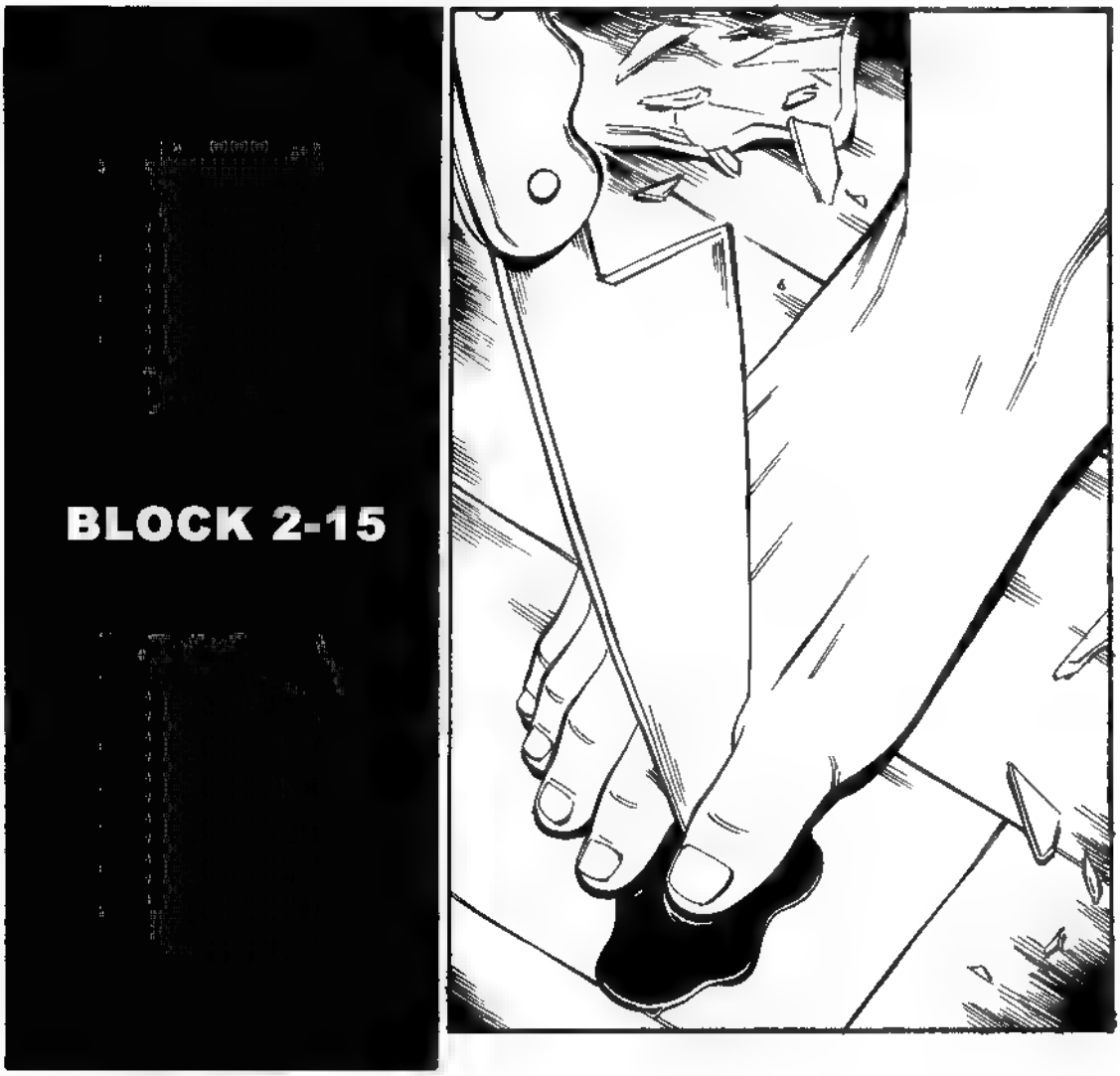
SOIL
Block 2-14 [End]

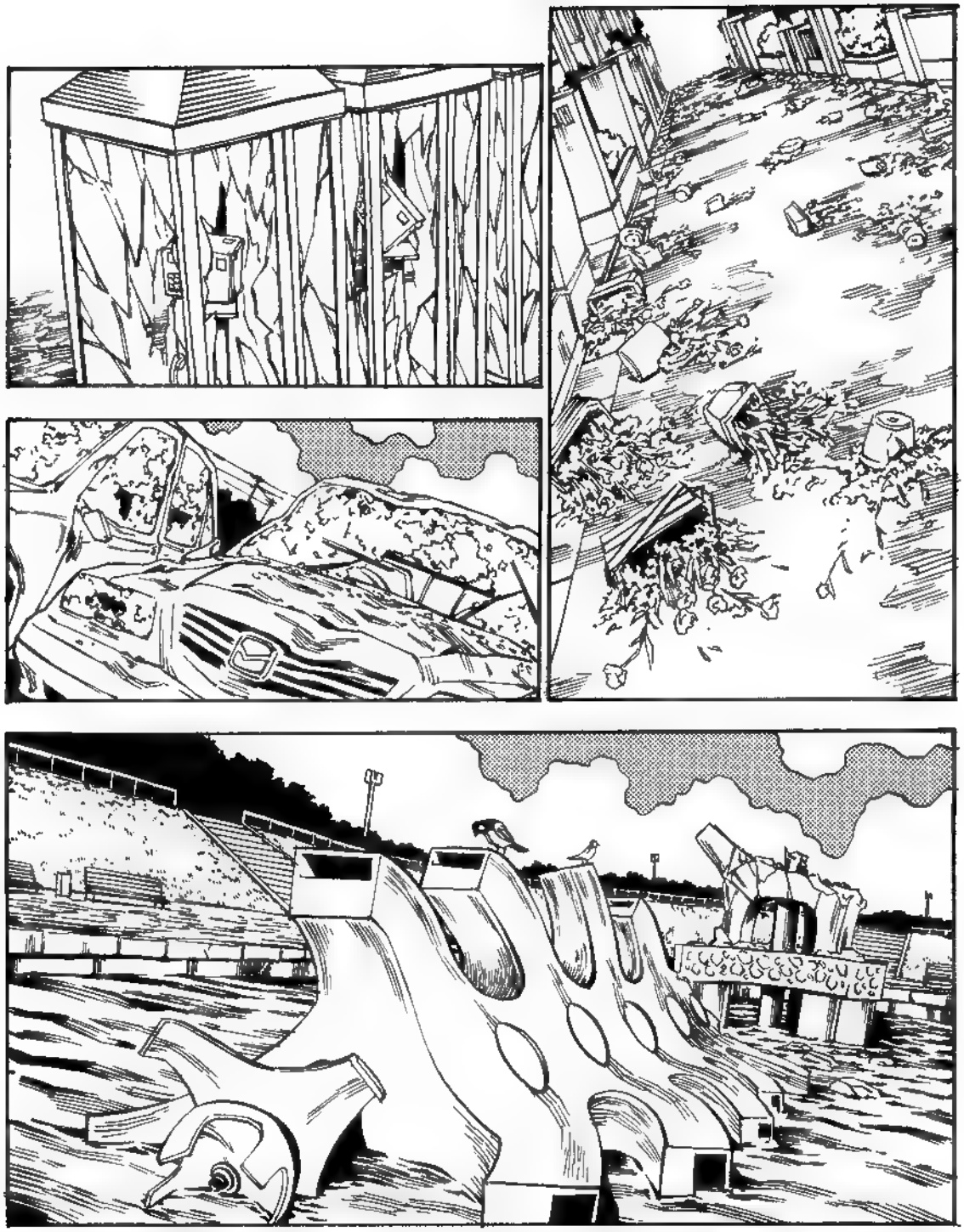
SOIL
Block 2-15 [School Counselor]


ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK


ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
FHX

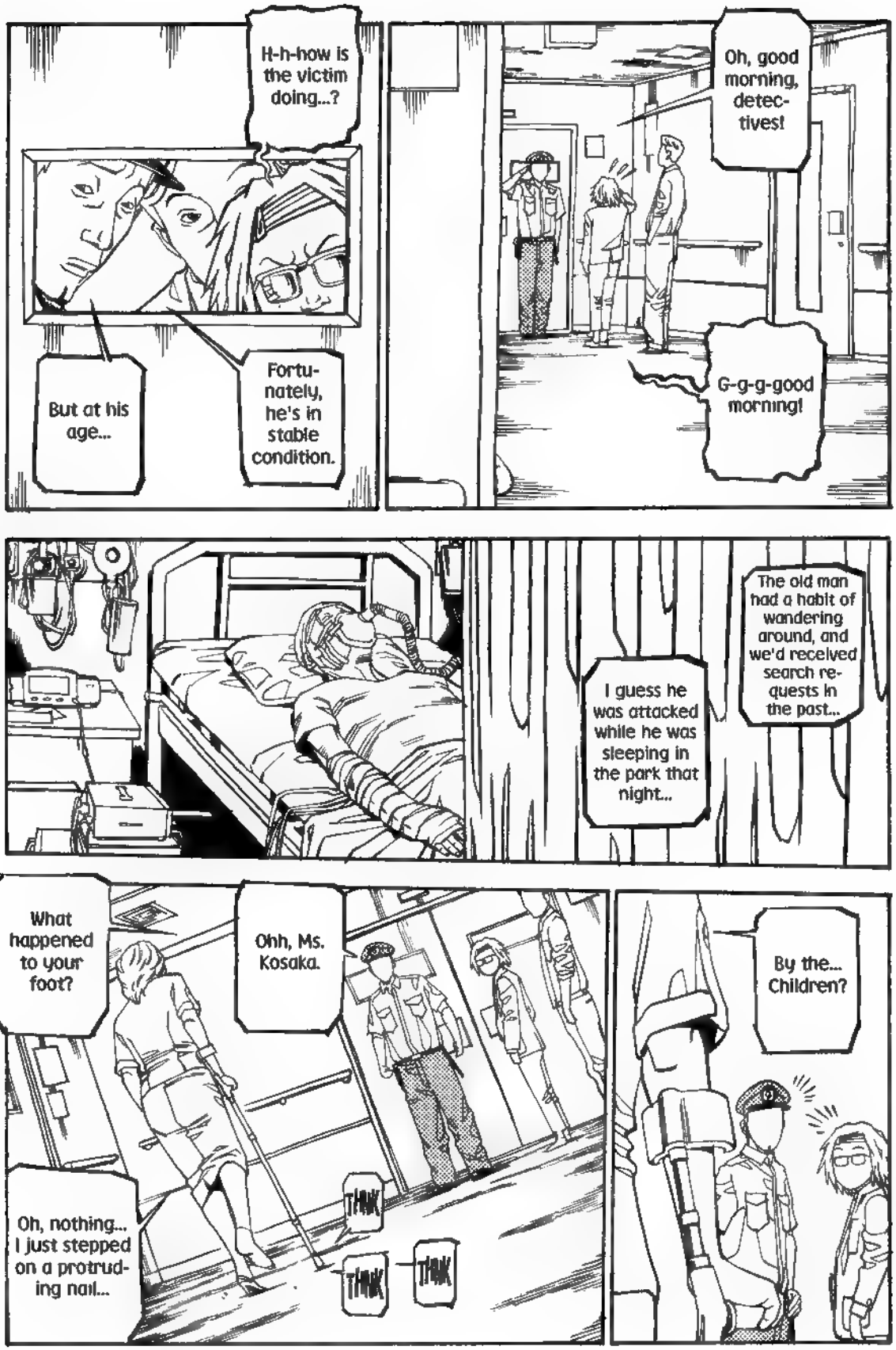


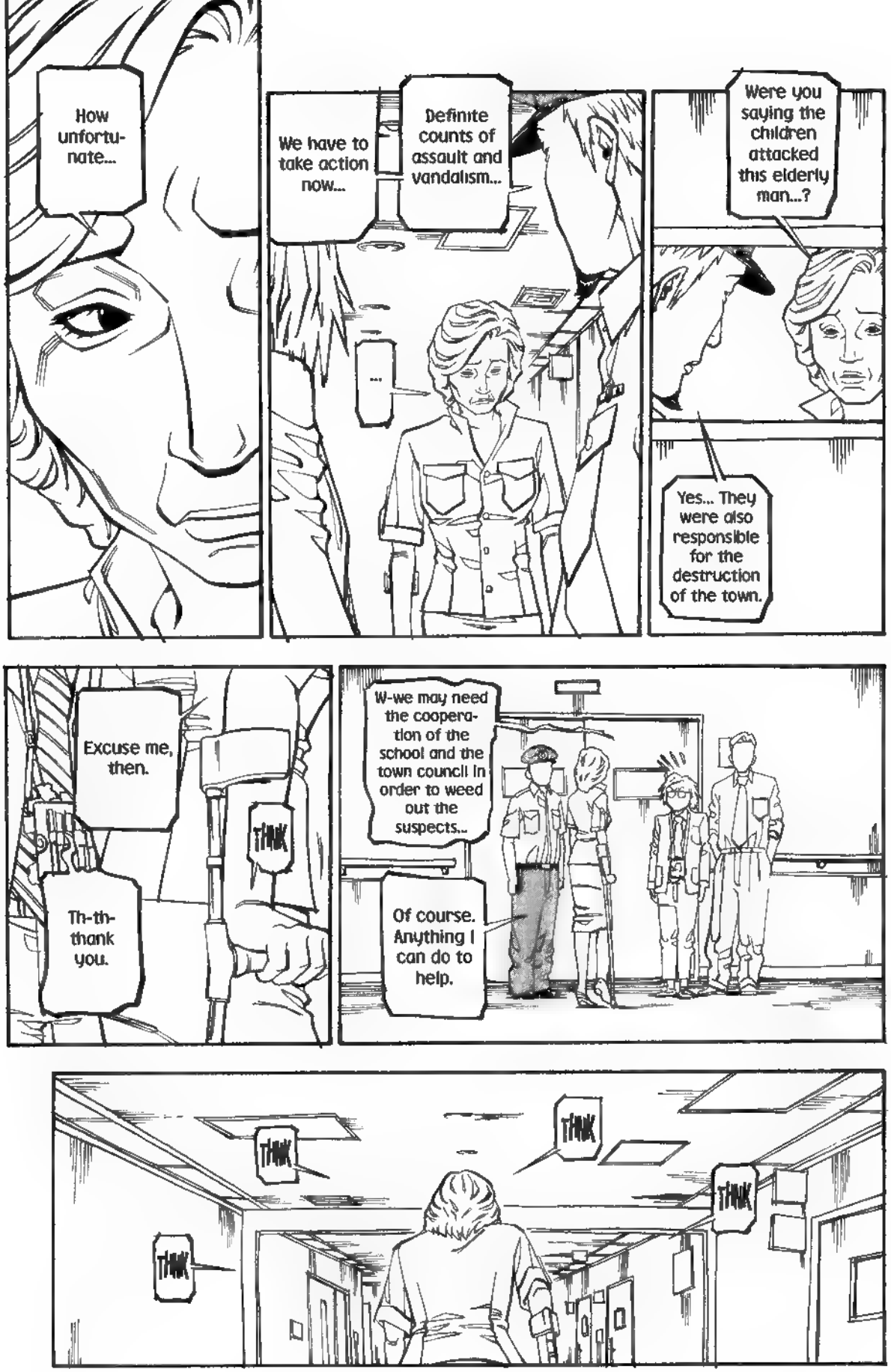

BLOCK 2-15

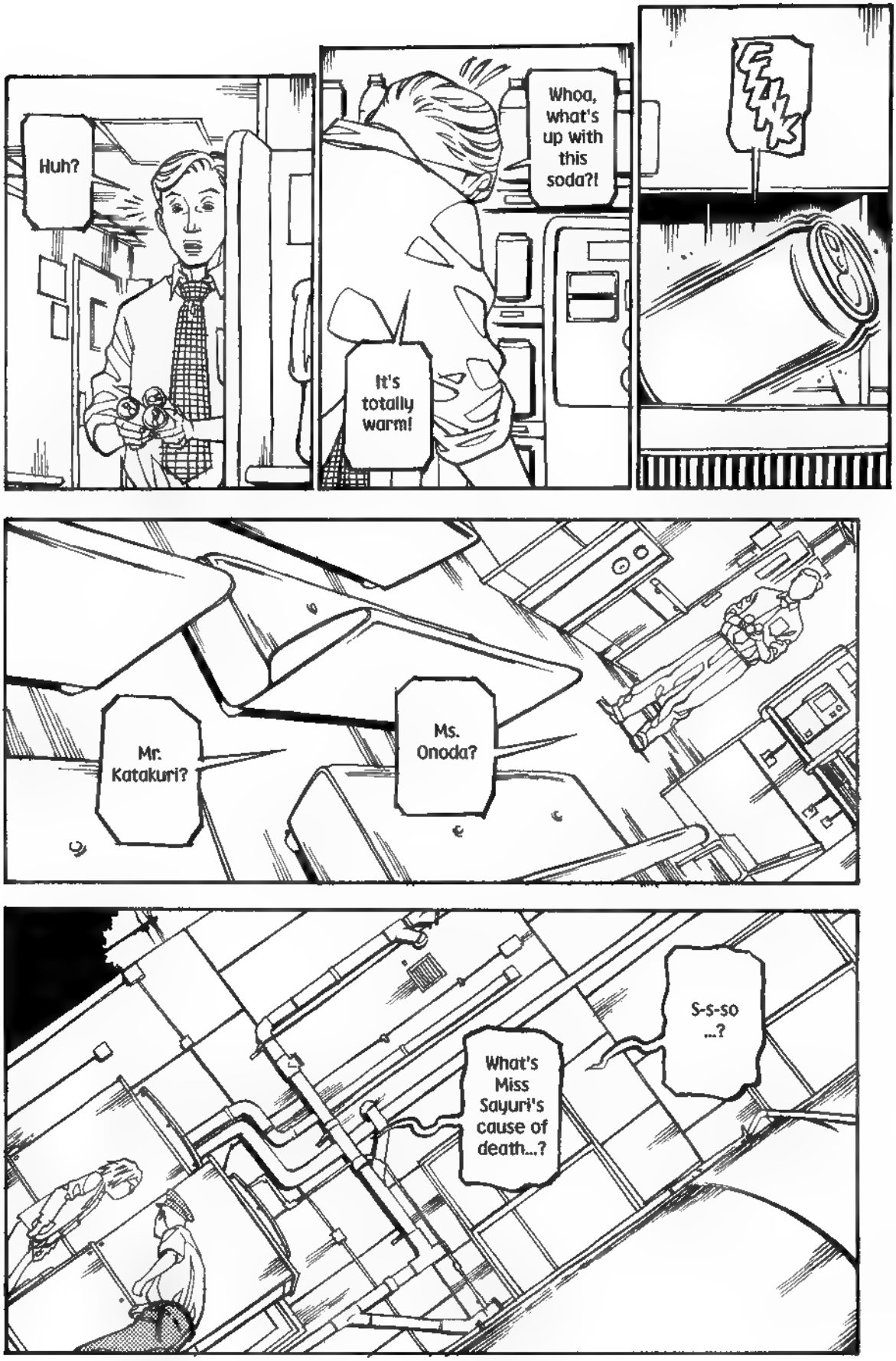


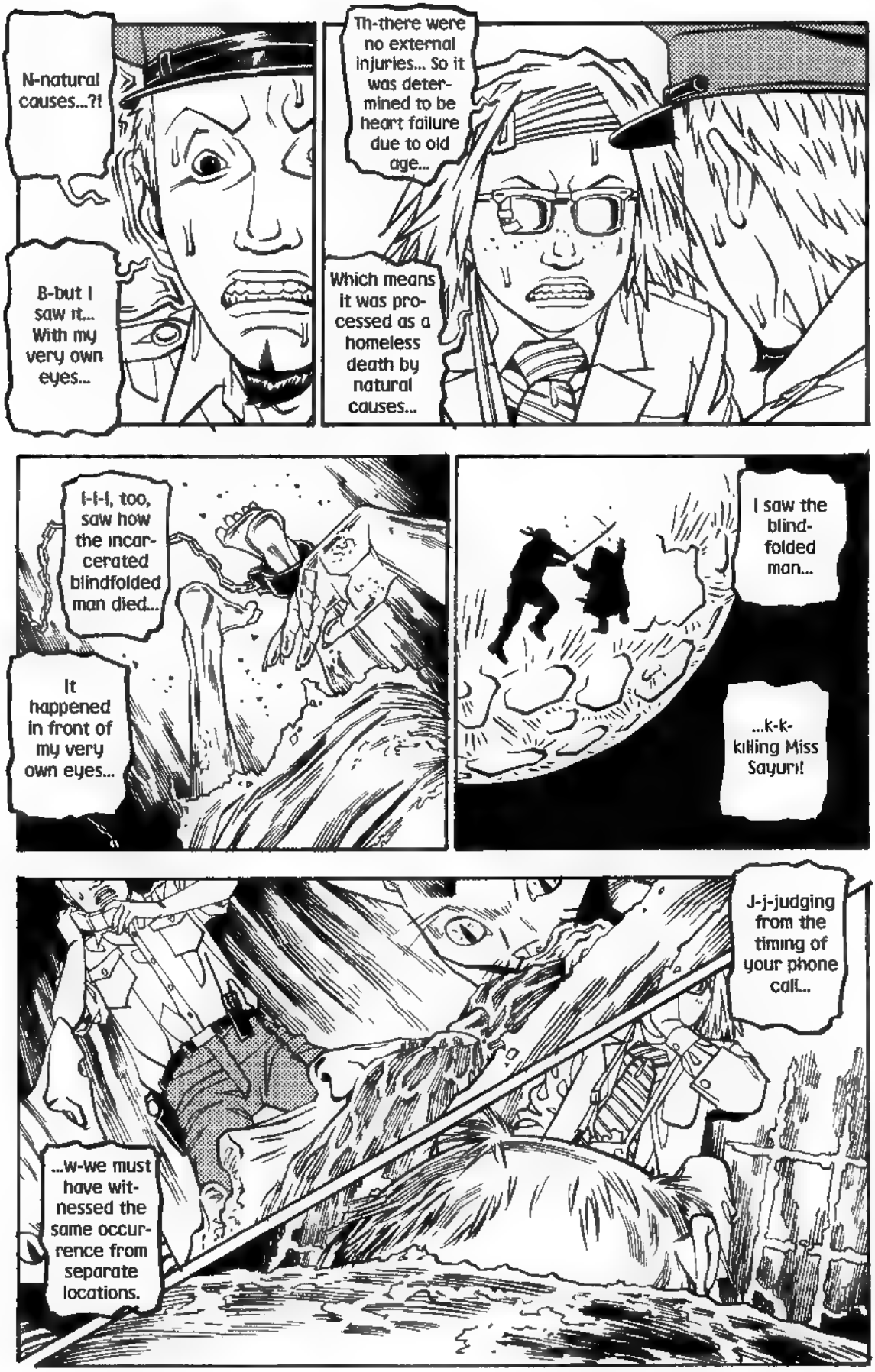
[School Counselor]

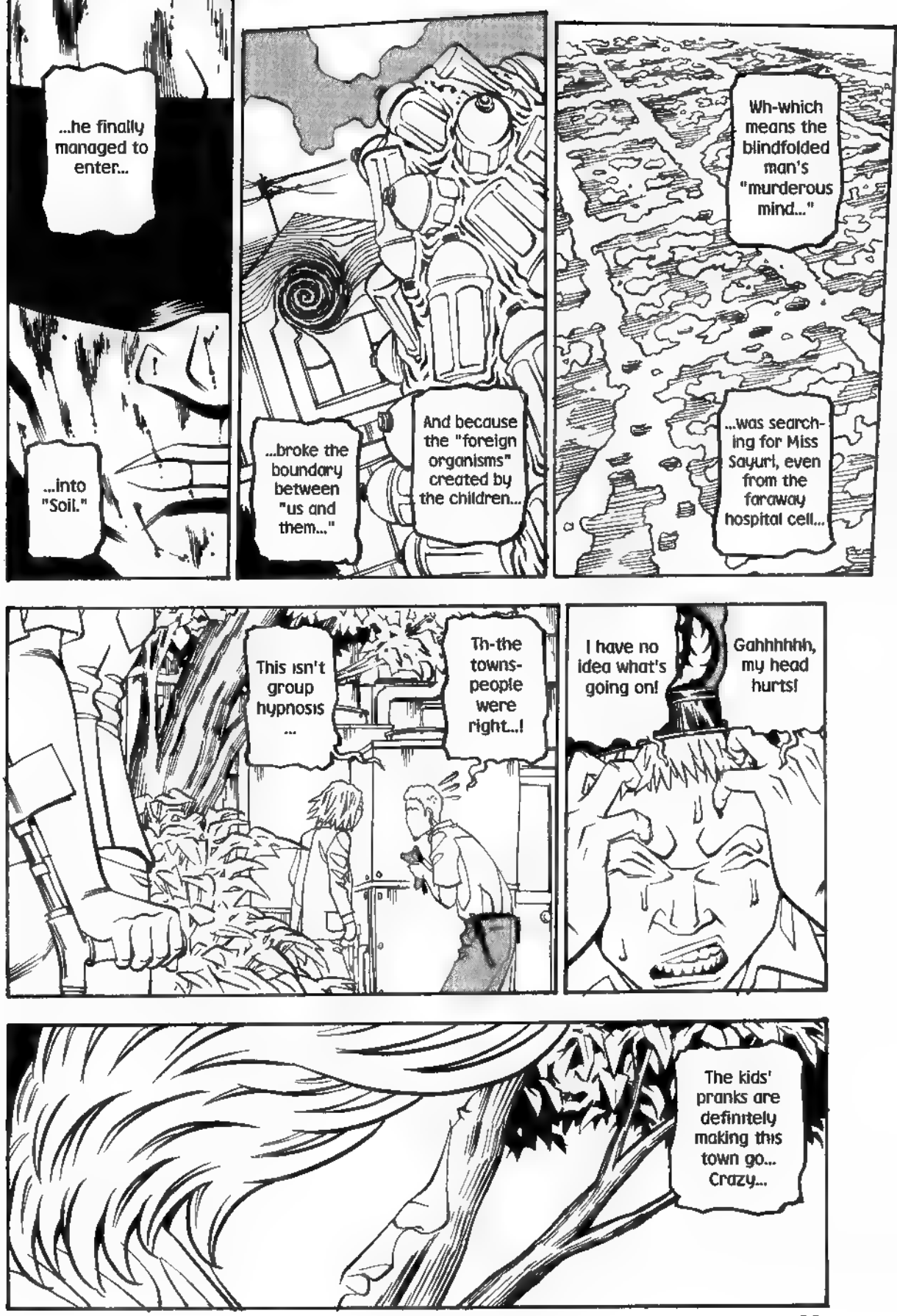
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
Whaaat?
You went all the way to Hokkaido on paid leave, but you didn't bring me back any salmon roe?
THINK
But I like poking my finger into a hot bowl of rice with salmon roe on top.
I have no intention of purchasing raw food for something like that!


H-h-how is the victim doing...?
But at his age...
Fortunately, he's in stable condition.
Oh, good morning, detectives!
G-g-g-good morning!
The old man had a habit of wandering around, and we'd received search requests in the past...
I guess he was attacked while he was sleeping in the park that night...
What happened to your foot?
Ohh, Ms. Kosaka.
Oh, nothing... I just stepped on a protruding nail...
THINK
THINK
THINK
By the... Children?

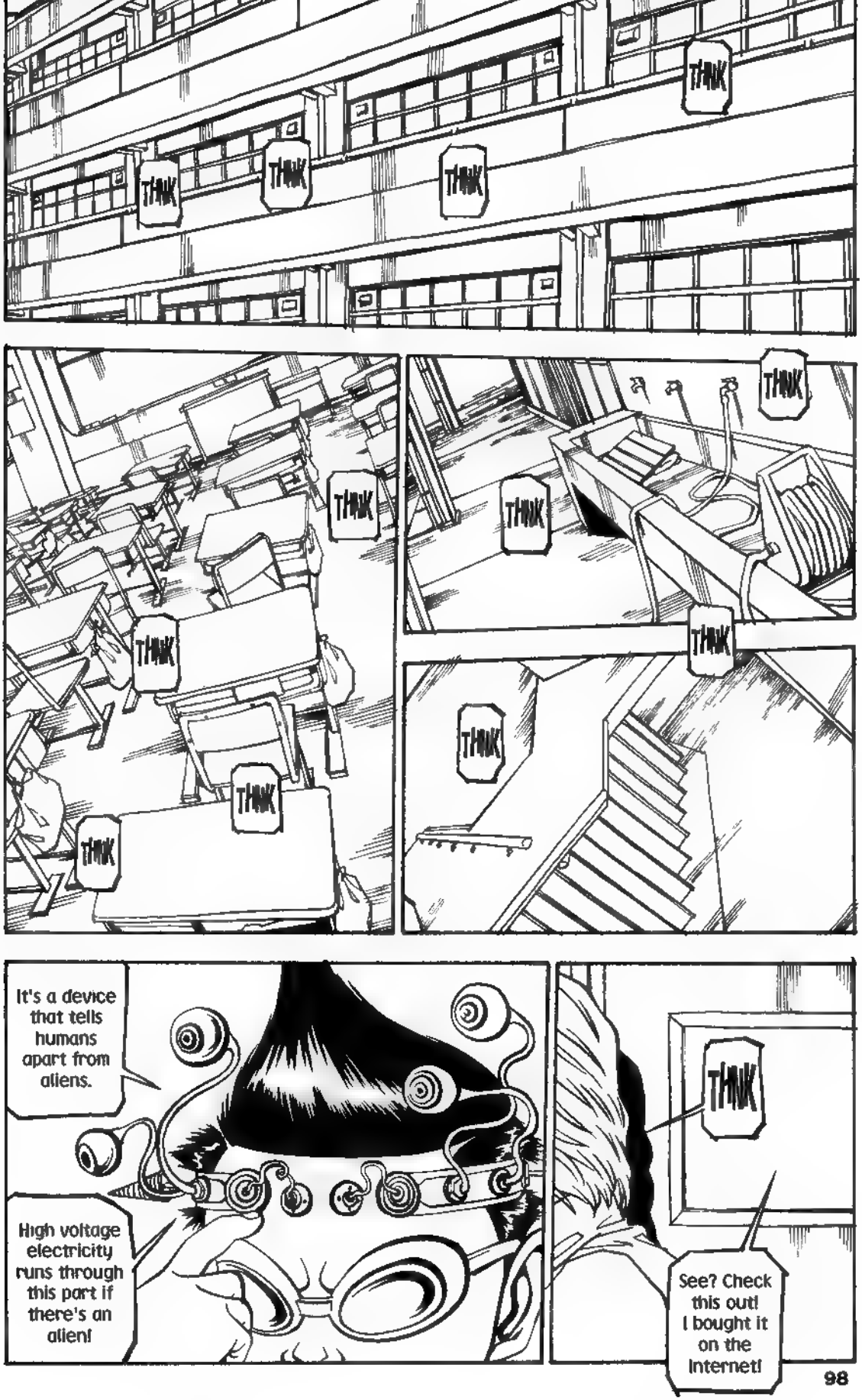

How unfortu-nate...
We have to take action now...
Definite counts of assault and vandalism...
...
Were you saying the children attacked this elderly man...?
Yes... They were also responsible for the destruction of the town.
Excuse me, then.
THINK
Th-th-thank you.
W-we may need the coopera-tion of the school and the town council in order to weed out the suspects...
Of course. Anything I can do to help.
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK

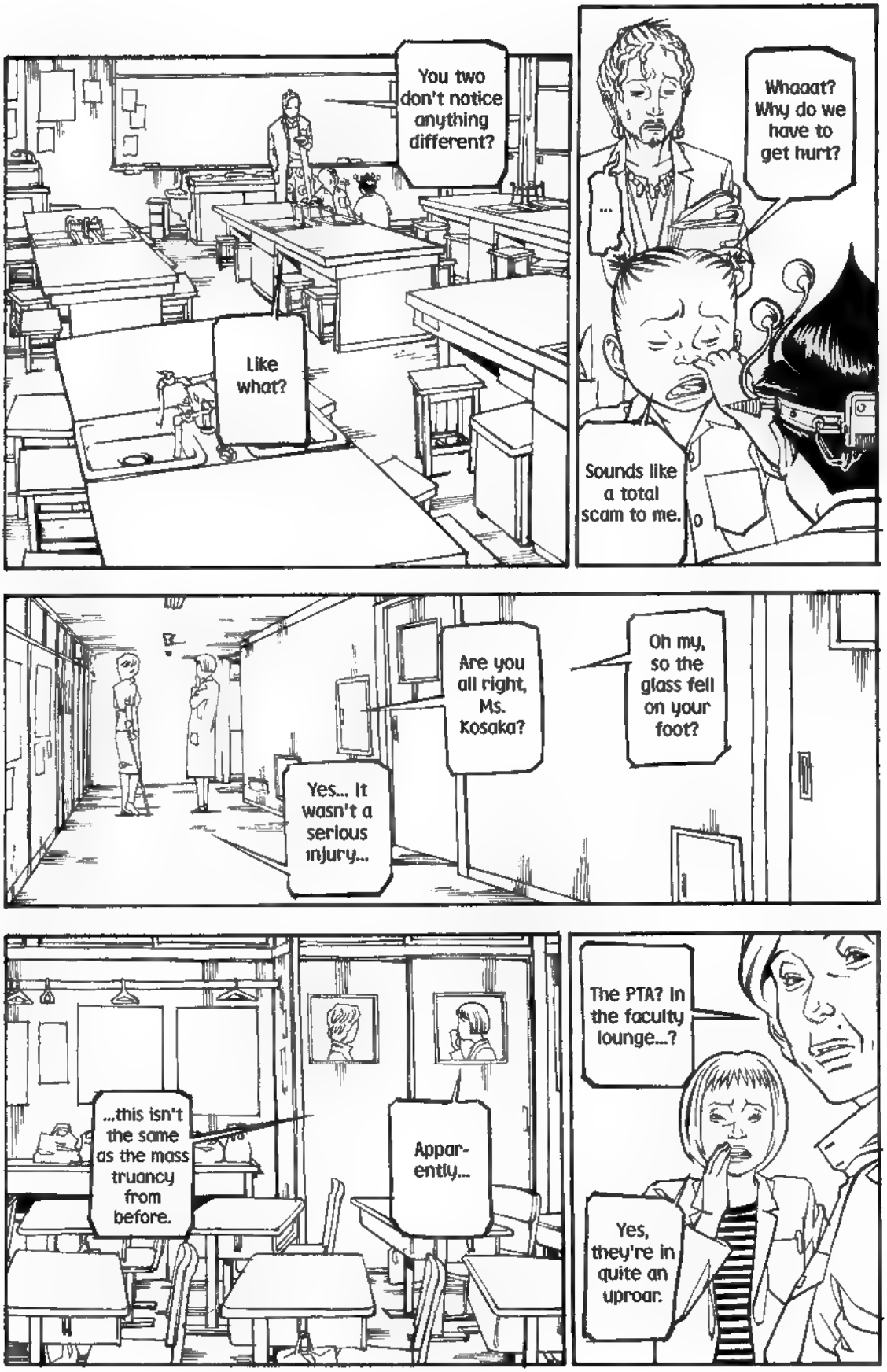

Huh?
Whoa, what's up with this soda?!
It's totally warm!
Mr. Katakuri?
Ms. Onoda?
What's Miss Sayuri's cause of death...?
S-s-so ...?


N-natural causes...?!
B-but I saw it... With my very own eyes...
Th-there were no external injuries... So it was determined to be heart failure due to old age...
Which means it was processed as a homeless death by natural causes...
I-I-I, too, saw how the incarcerated blindfolded man died...
It happened in front of my very own eyes...
I saw the blindfolded man...
...k-k-killing Miss Sayuri!
J-j-judging from the timing of your phone call...
...w-we must have witnessed the same occurrence from separate locations.

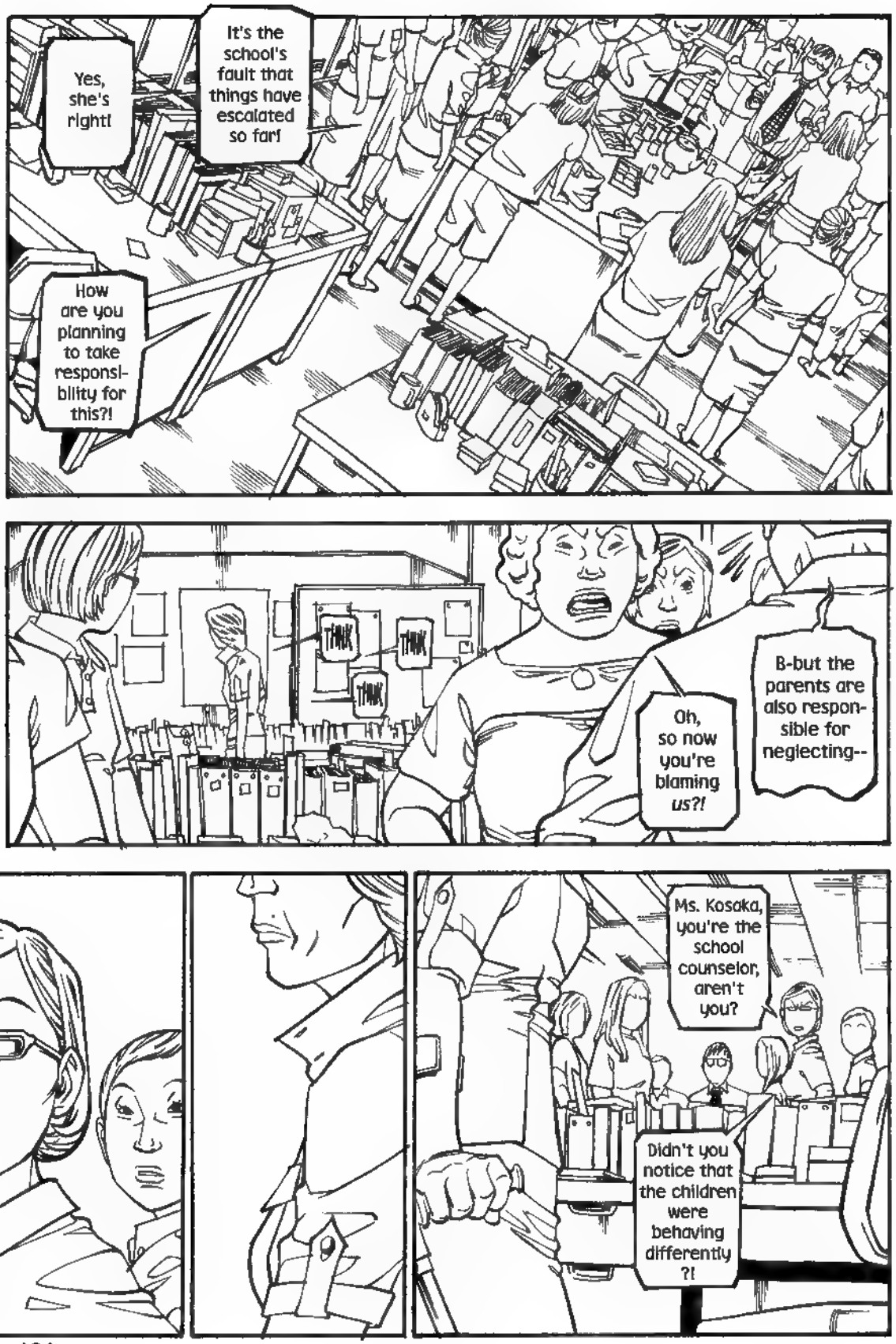

...he finally managed to enter...
...into "Soil."
...broke the boundary between "us and them..."
And because the "foreign organisms" created by the children...
Wh-which means the blindfolded man's "murderous mind..."
...was searching for Miss Sayuri, even from the faraway hospital cell...
This isn't group hypnosis ...
Th-the townspeople were right...!
I have no idea what's going on!
Gahhhhhh, my head hurts!
The kids' pranks are definitely making this town go... Crazy...

I couldn't think of a way to smooth it over, so I wrote exactly what happened.
My report for the bullets I fired...
What? A-a-a-and?!
O-oh, and...
Huh?
There's one other strange thing...
Something so impossible that the police don't know what to do either...
Something's up with this case...
...
But you see... They went ahead and approved the report...
I mean, no matter how busy they are at the station, they wouldn't let something like that slip by, would they...?!
THINK
THINK
THINK
...this case can and will be solved!
B-but I still believe that...

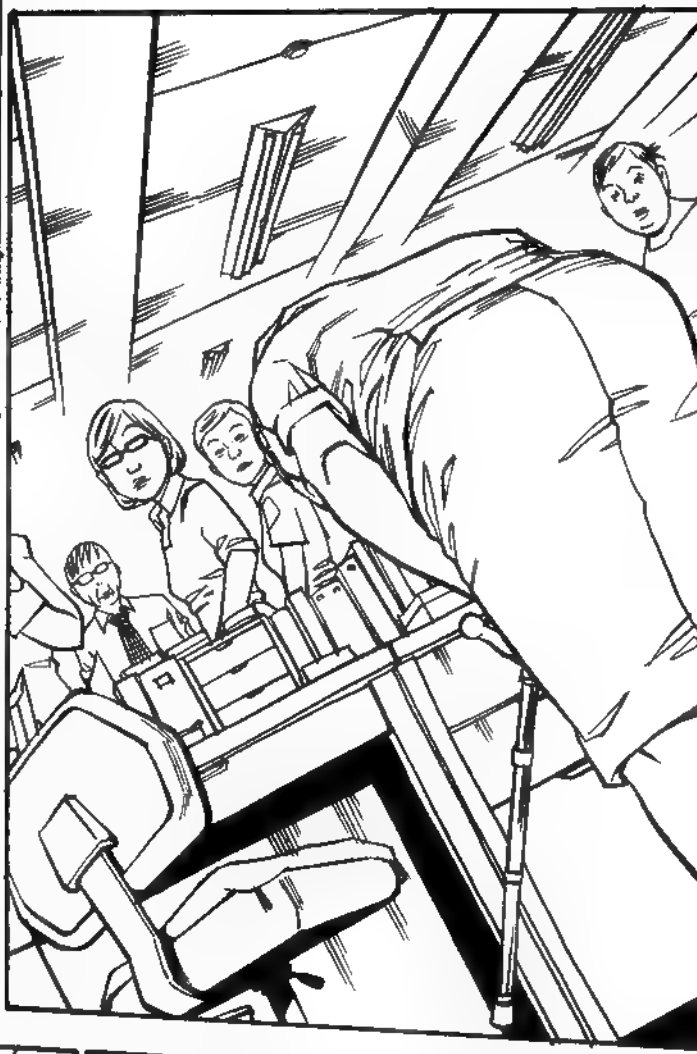

THWK
THWK
THWK
THWK
THWK
THWK
THWK
THWK
THWK
THWK
It's a device that tells humans apart from aliens.
High voltage electricity runs through this part if there's an alien!
THWK
See? Check this out! I bought it on the Internet!


You two don't notice anything different?
Like what?
Whaaat? Why do we have to get hurt?
...
Sounds like a total scam to me.
Are you all right, Ms. Kosaka?
Oh my, so the glass fell on your foot?
Yes... It wasn't a serious injury...
...this isn't the same as the mass truancy from before.
Apparently...
The PTA? In the faculty lounge...?
Yes, they're in quite an uproar.

The violence from the other day has caused the parents to panic...
...and they're refusing to let the children out of their rooms.
But it seems like they're doing this to avoid negative influence from the other children...
...not because they're suspicious of their own children.

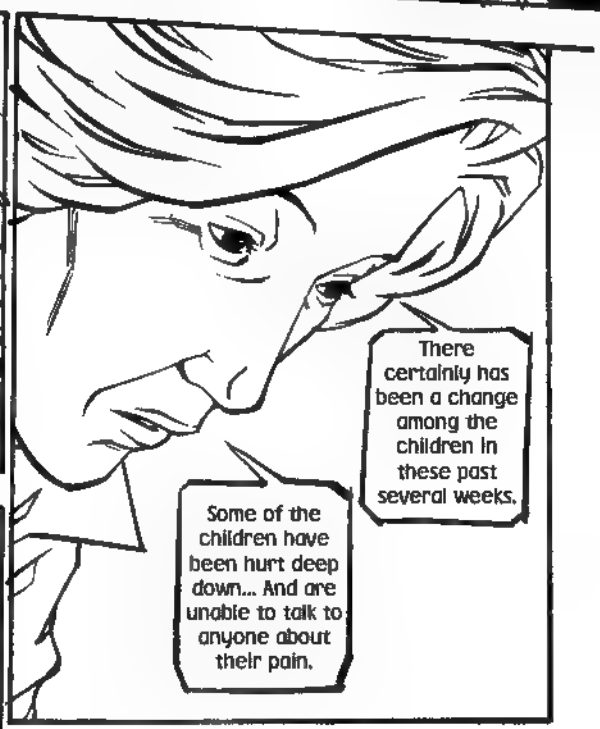

Yes, she's right!
It's the school's fault that things have escalated so far!
How are you planning to take responsibility for this?!
THINK
THINK
THINK
Oh, so now you're blaming *us*?!
B-but the parents are also responsible for neglecting--
Ms. Kosaka, you're the school counselor, aren't you?
Didn't you notice that the children were behaving differently ?!

...I apologize for not being able to fulfill my duty.
As the person responsible for taking care of the children's minds...



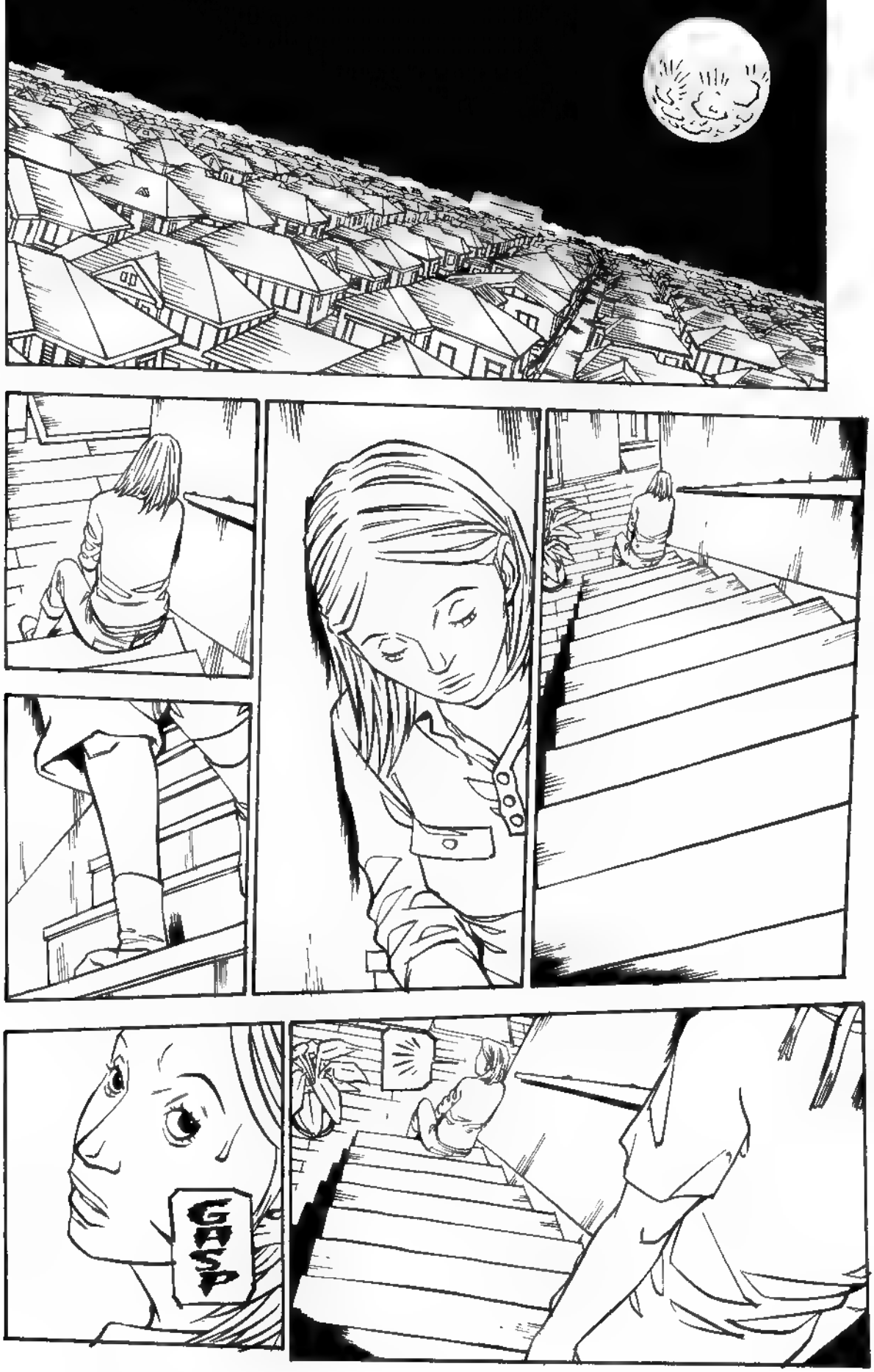
...

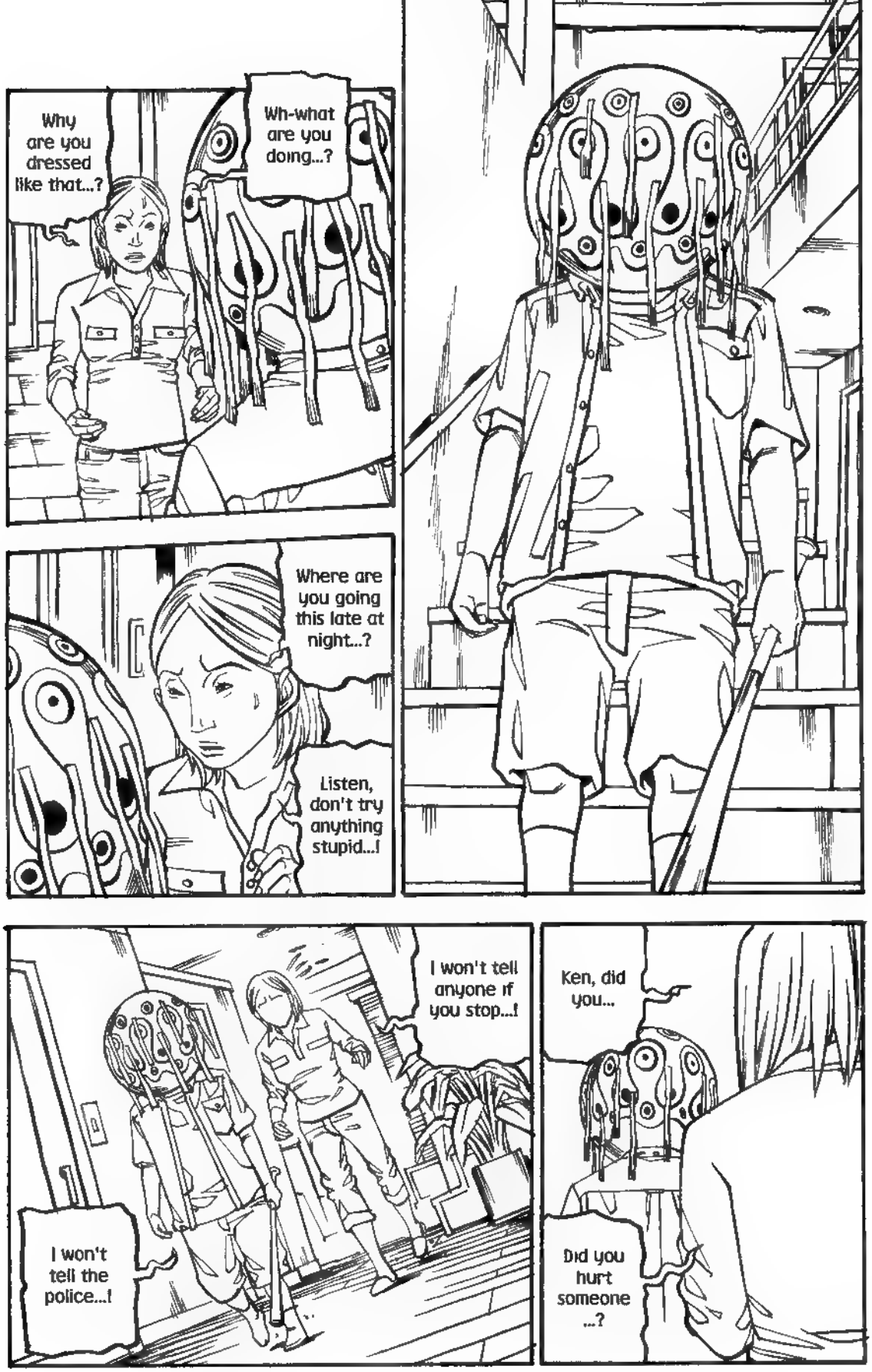
Has anyone here... Tried to discuss this with their children?

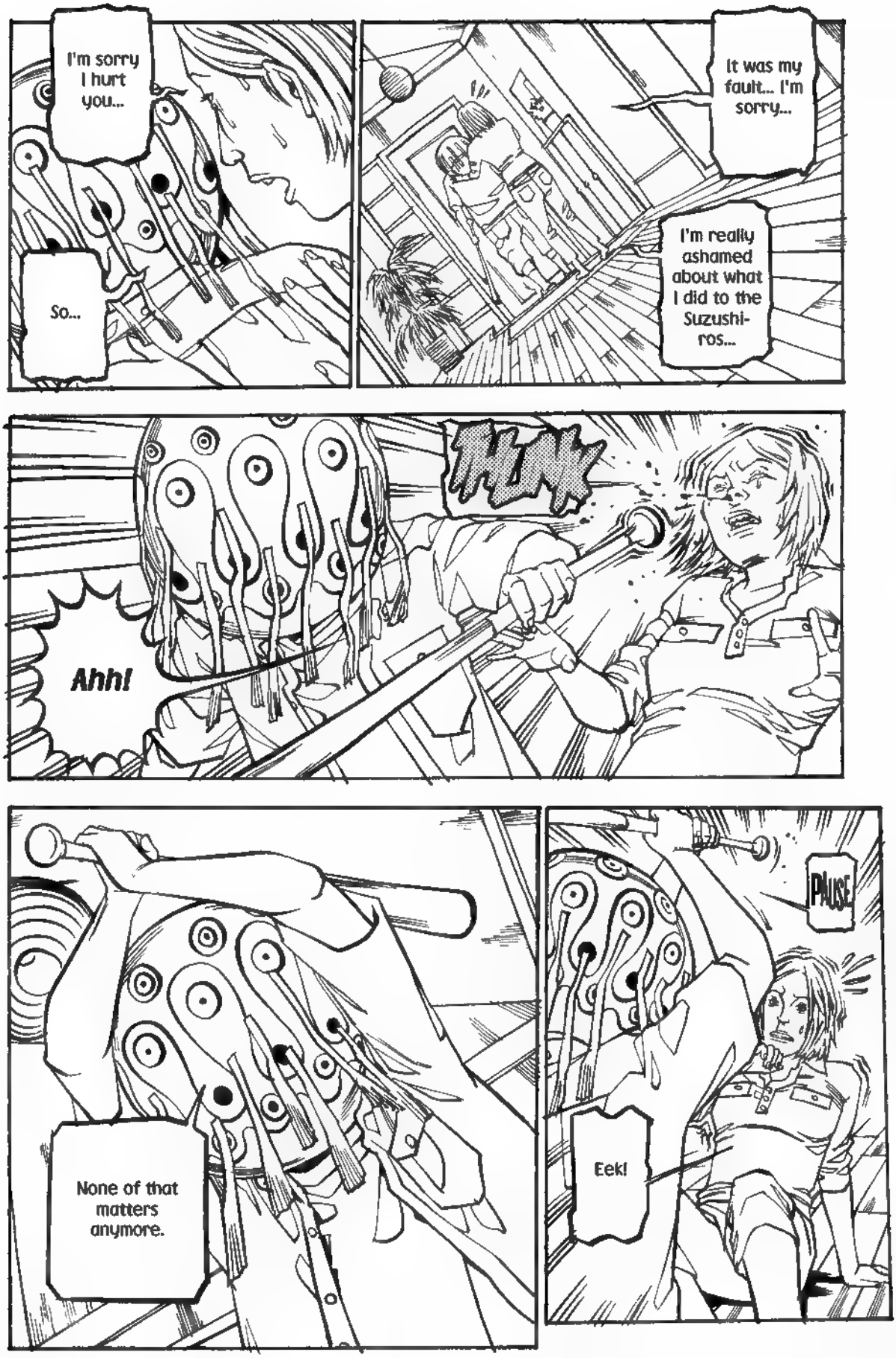

There certainly has been a change among the children in these past several weeks.
Some of the children have been hurt deep down... And are unable to talk to anyone about their pain.

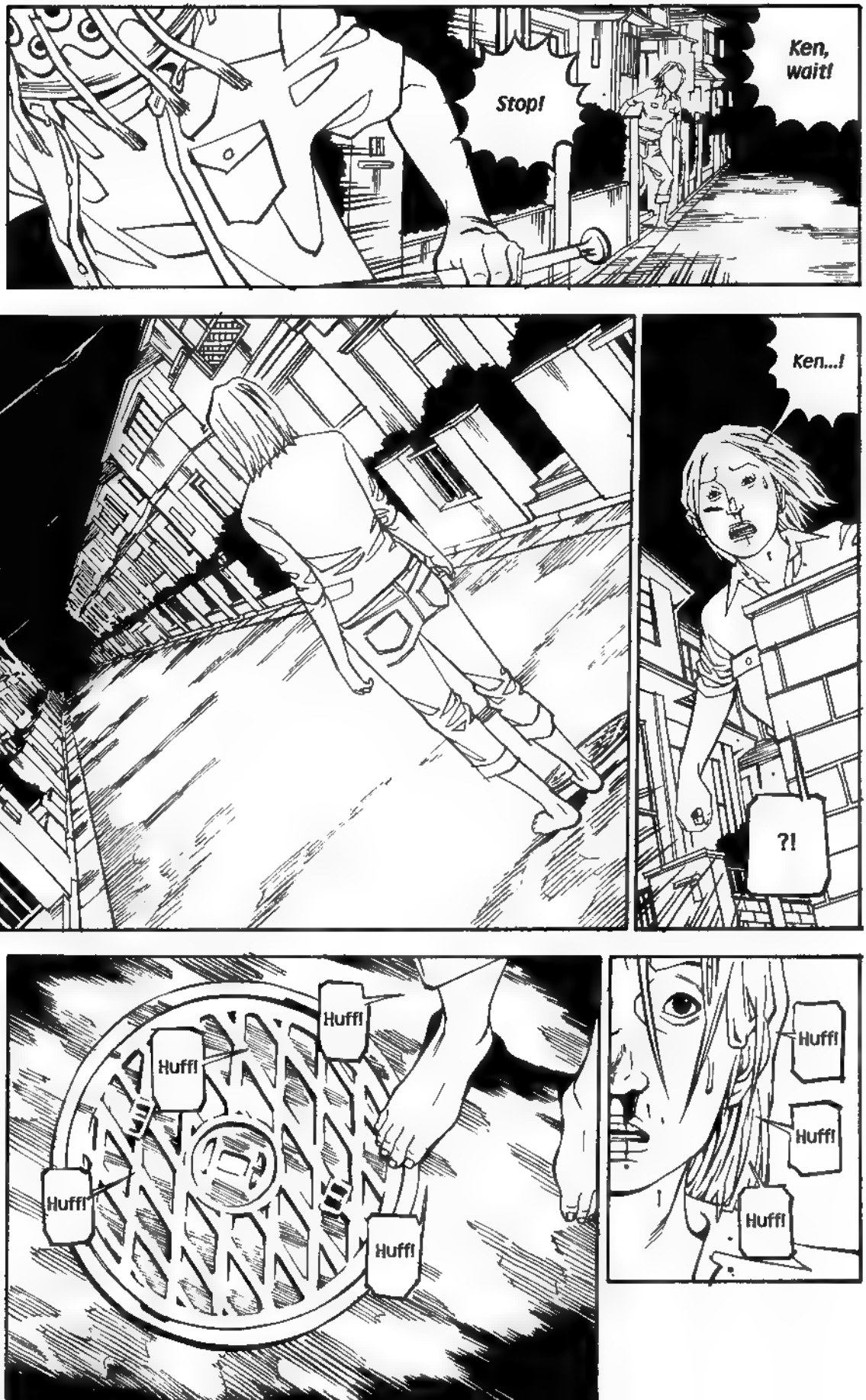
Oh yes...
But that's...

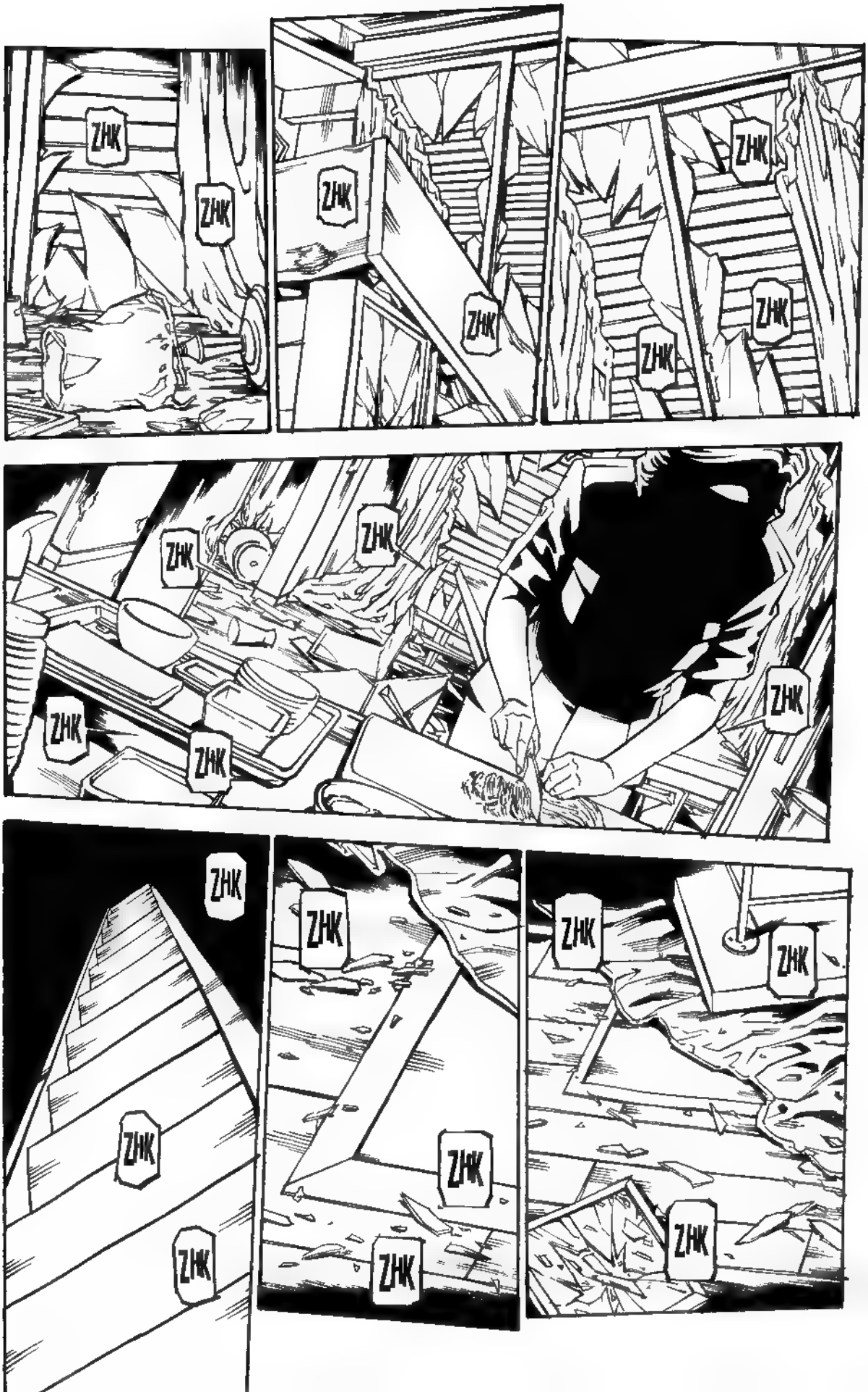
...
...by fearing confrontation with the children.
In truth, we may be the ones distancing ourselves...
...
They've lost faith in the adult world, and are wandering, lost in the darkness.
The children being bullied and the children doing the bullying are both in equal pain.
...shouldn't we begin by trying to understand them first?
If we truly wish to save the children...
...
...


GASP

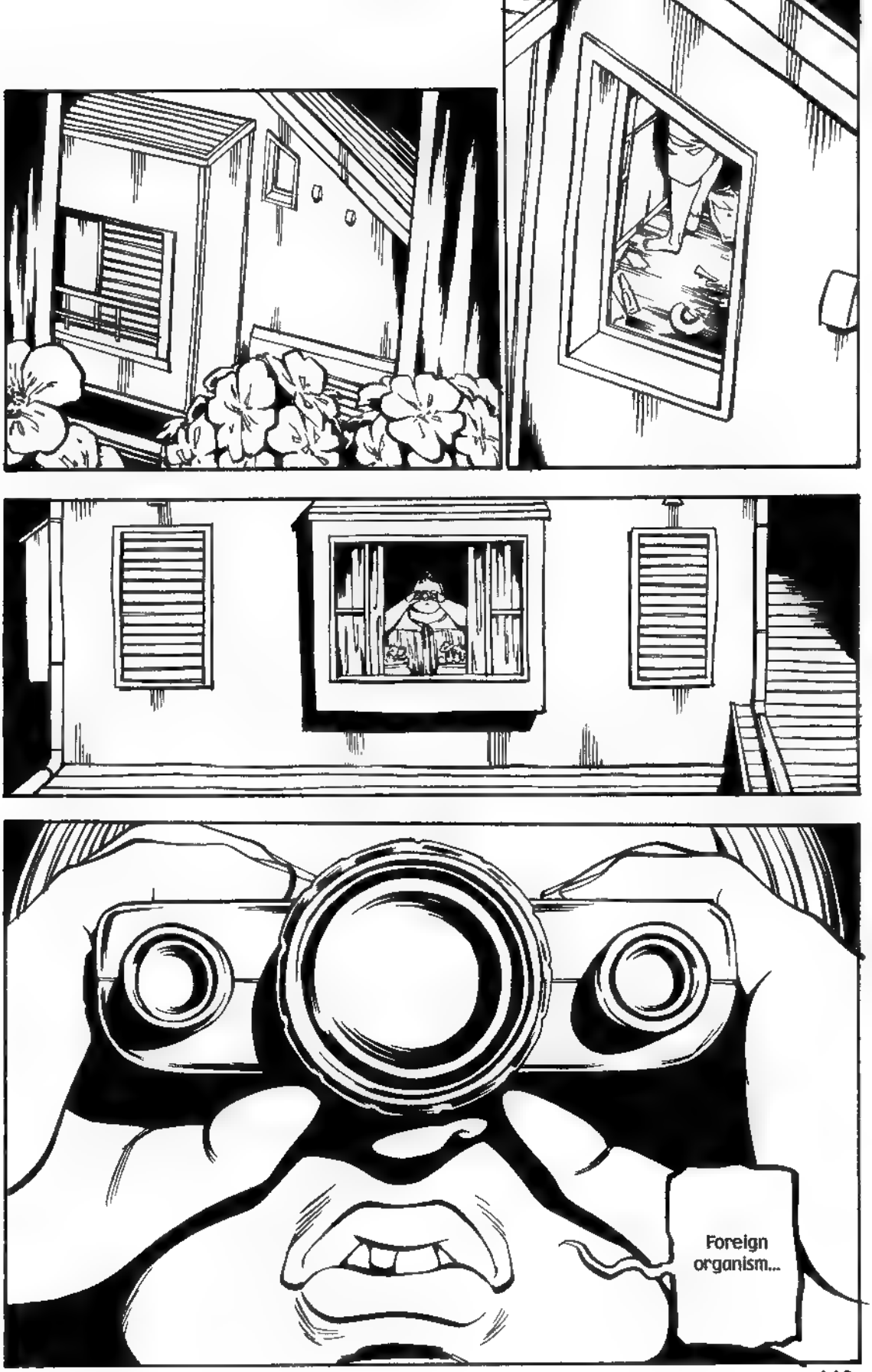

Why are you dressed like that...?
Wh-what are you doing...?
Where are you going this late at night...?
Listen, don't try anything stupid...!
I won't tell anyone if you stop...!
I won't tell the police...!
Ken, did you...
Did you hurt someone ...?


I'm sorry I hurt you...
So...
It was my fault... I'm sorry...
I'm really ashamed about what I did to the Suzushiros...
THUNK
Ahh!
None of that matters anymore.
PAUSE
Eek!


Stop!
Ken, wait!
Ken...!
?!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!


ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK

Nahhhhh!
GLCH
GLCH
Nahhhhh!
Ahhhhhh!
GLCH
GUSH
Nahhhhhh!
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK


Foreign organism...

SOIL
Block 2-15 [End]

SOIL

Block 2-16 [Objective]

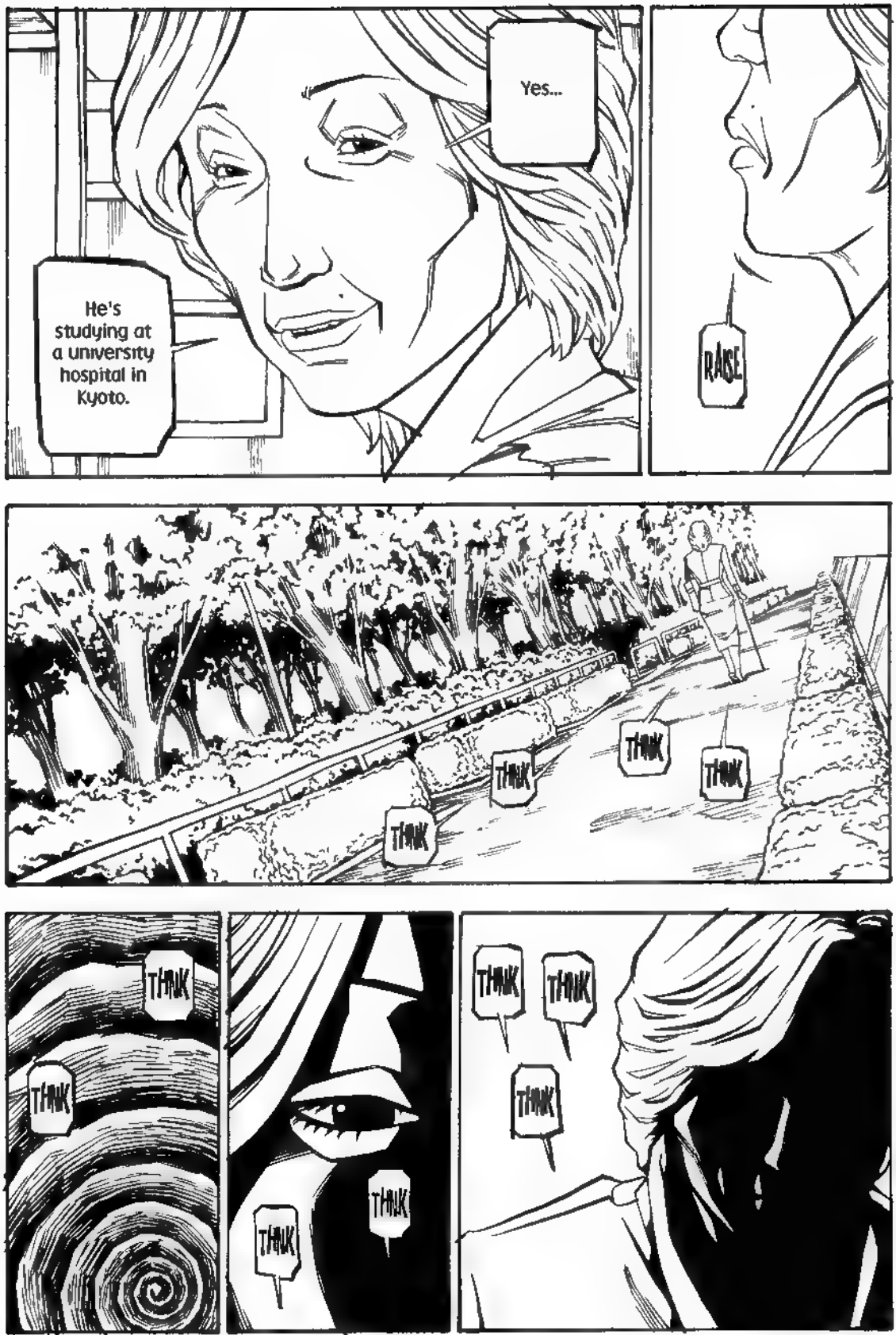
BLOCK 2-16
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK

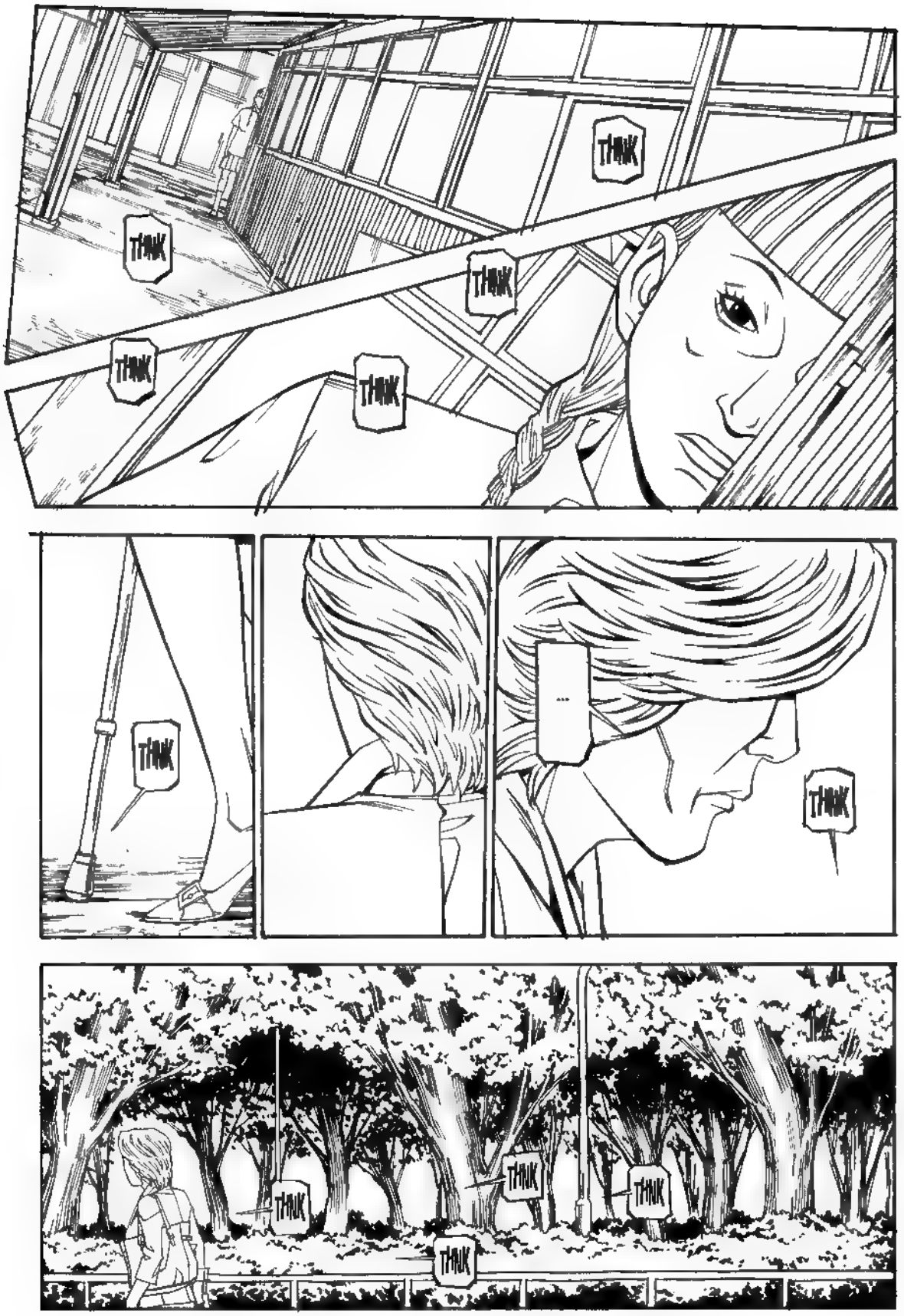
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
...

7:45 AM...
Leaves house...
[Objective]

Thank you very much.
Take care.
You'll need to keep using the crutch for a while.
Make sure you don't exert too much pressure on the foot until the stitches are removed.
PAUSE
How is your son doing, Ms. Kosaka?
Oh, by the way...

Are you all right?
Oh... Yes, thank you.
Oww!
KLUNK
You've met my son before, doctor?
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
The shards flew into his face...
Yes... The glass table broke when we were unpacking...
Your son came in with an injury to his face.
Yes, when you first moved to "Soil."
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Did he end up becoming a medical student?
I remember he was seeking to go to medical school...
That was about five years ago, wasn't it?
...so it left an impression on me...
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !

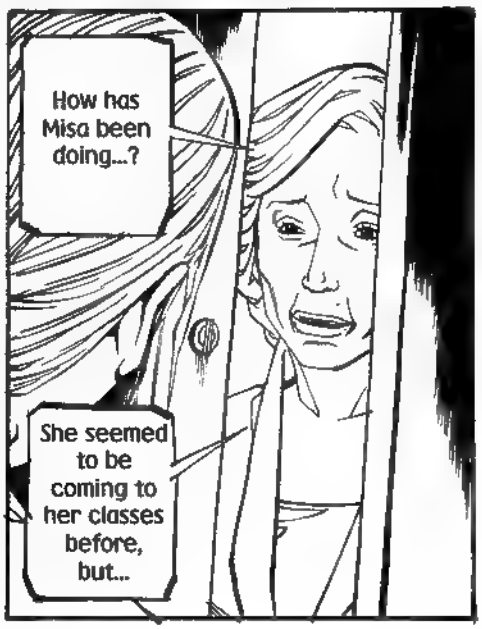

Yes...
He's studying at a university hospital in Kyoto.
RAISE
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK


THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
...
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK

...

Excuse me for stopping by without notice...
I wanted to inquire about your daughter...

GRAB

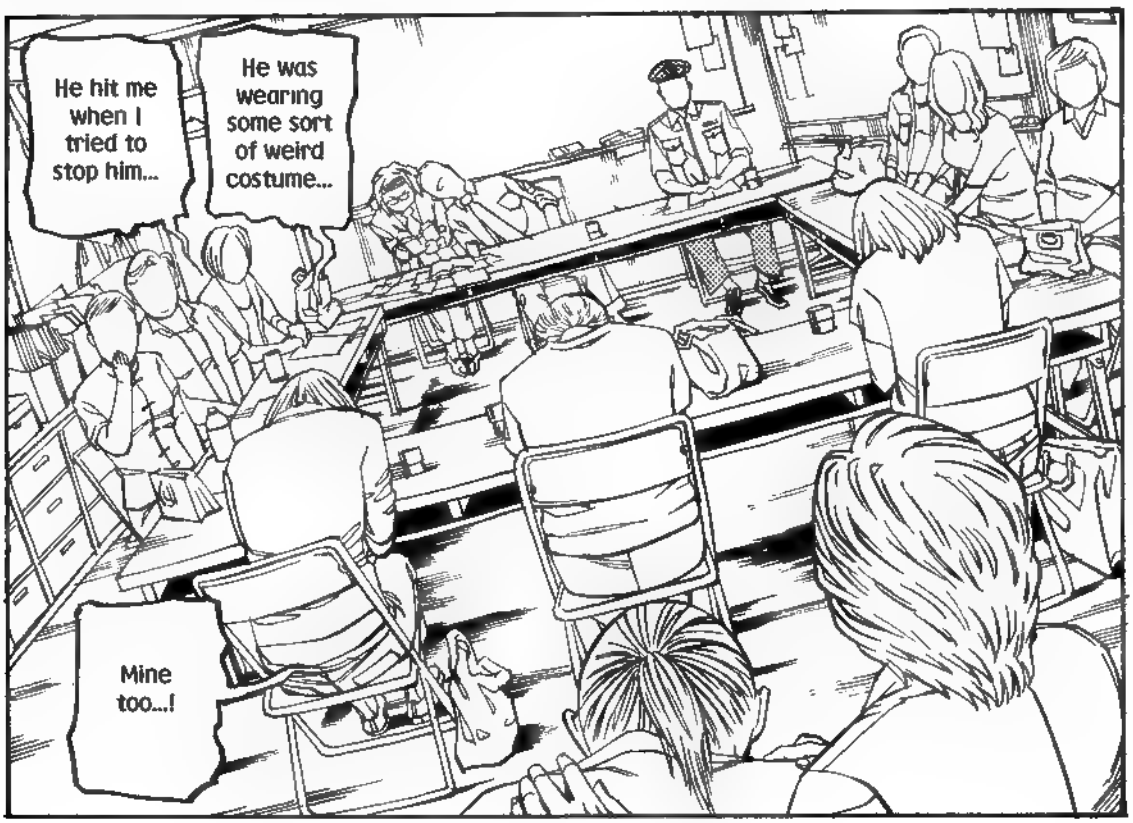

How has Misa been doing...?
She seemed to be coming to her classes before, but...

Uh, uh... Uhhh...

I hadn't realized that Misa...
She disappeared from her room...
I don't know what to do anymore, Ms. Kosaka...
She's been gone for days now...
I've searched everywhere, but...
...
And she...
Maybe she couldn't stand to live any longer...
She must have been so hurt...

..Town Council Assembly Hall

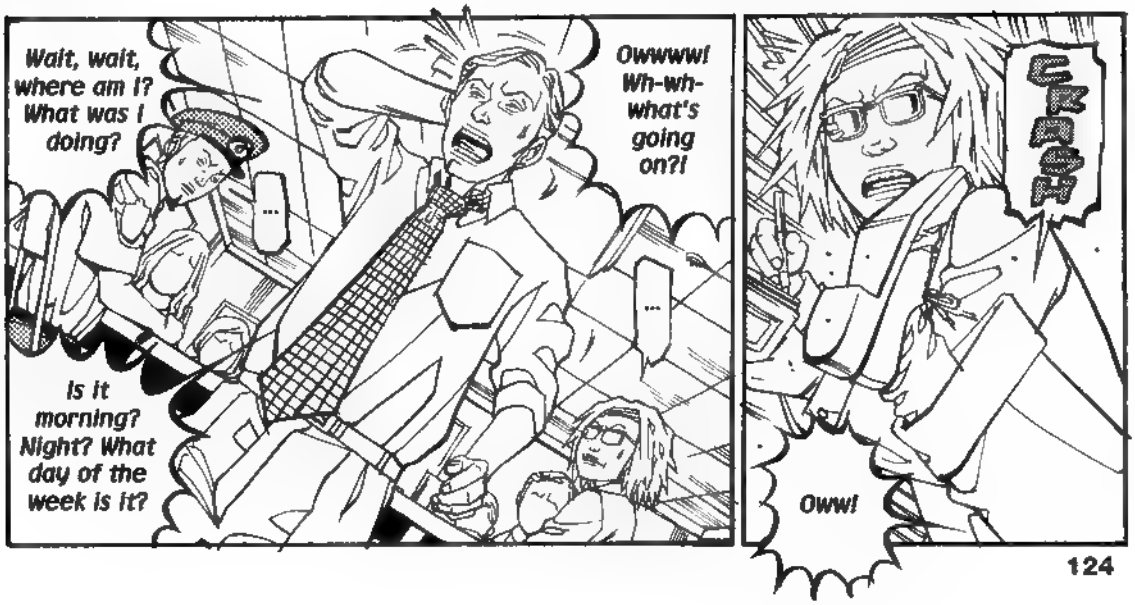
Mine too...
My son, too...
I haven't seen him for days...

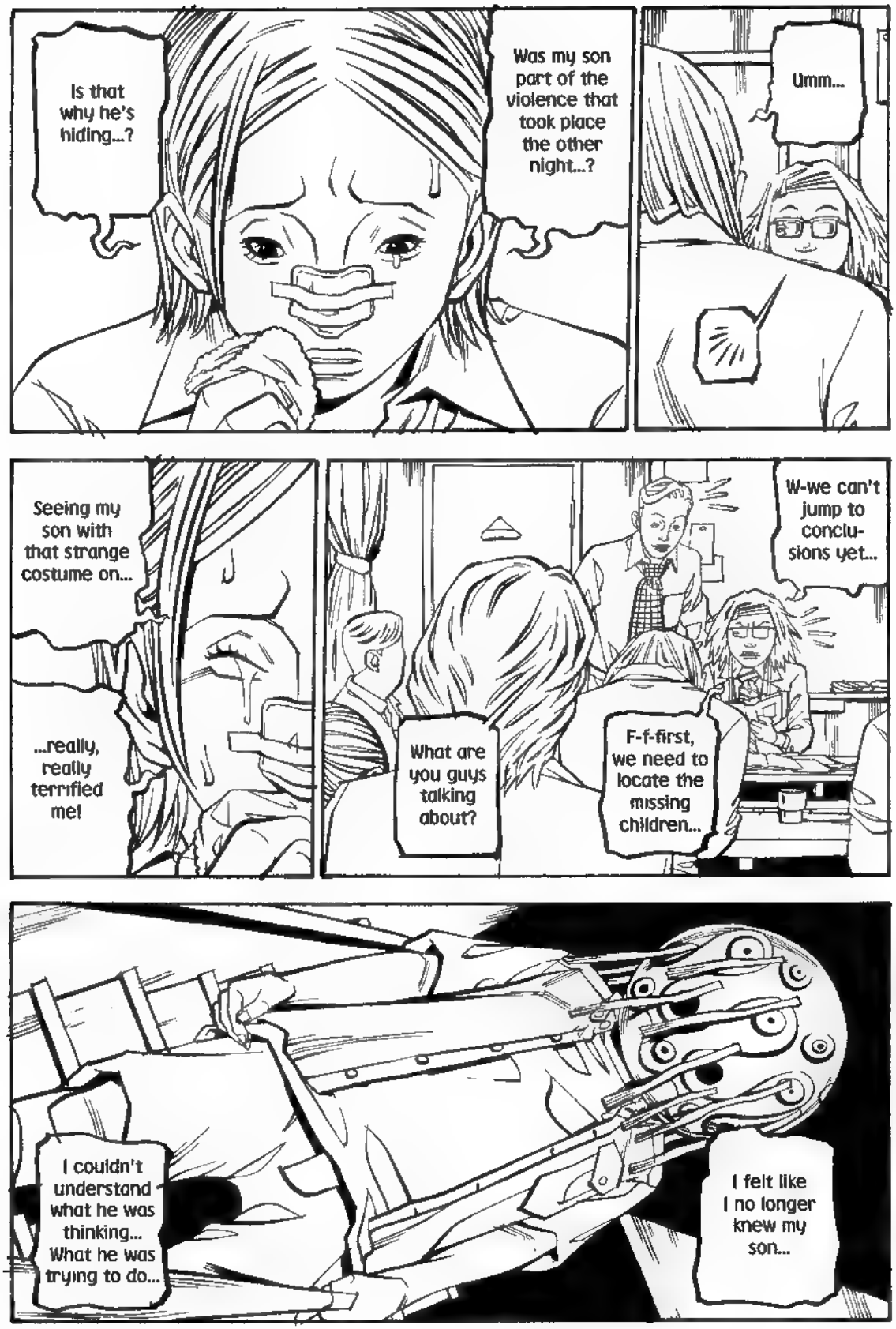

He hit me when I tried to stop him...
He was wearing some sort of weird costume...
Mine too...!

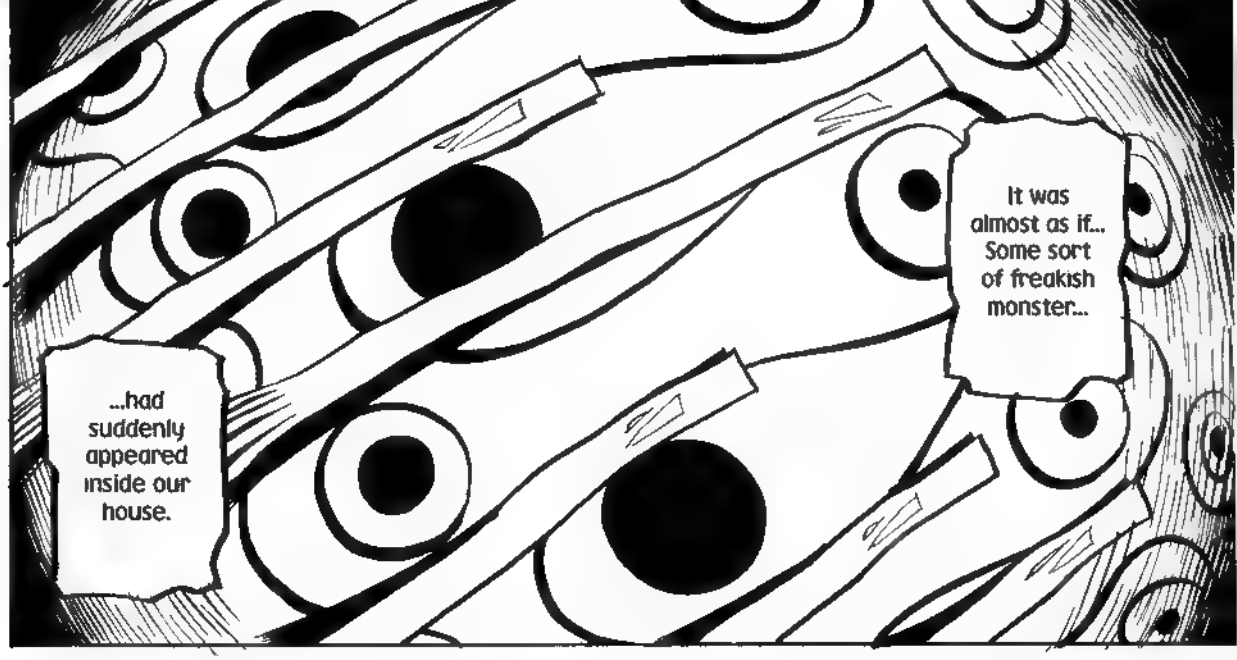
Th-th-they must be hiding somewhere inside the town...
B-b-but they couldn't have gone far without any money or belongings...
RRRR
Places where they hung out with their friends...?
Do you have any idea where they could have gone...?
I'm not sure...
Yes... There's really nowhere to hide...
...
But where...? In a small town like this...?
Yes, mine too...
My son is refusing to talk to me.
What about the children who are still at home?
Have they said anything that could help us?

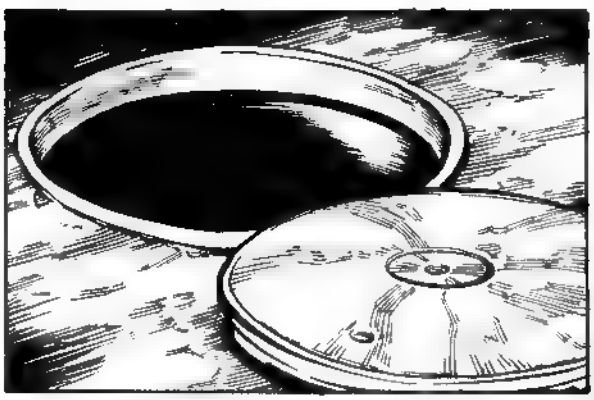
Silent and completely emotion-less...
It's like they've become lifeless after we grounded them...

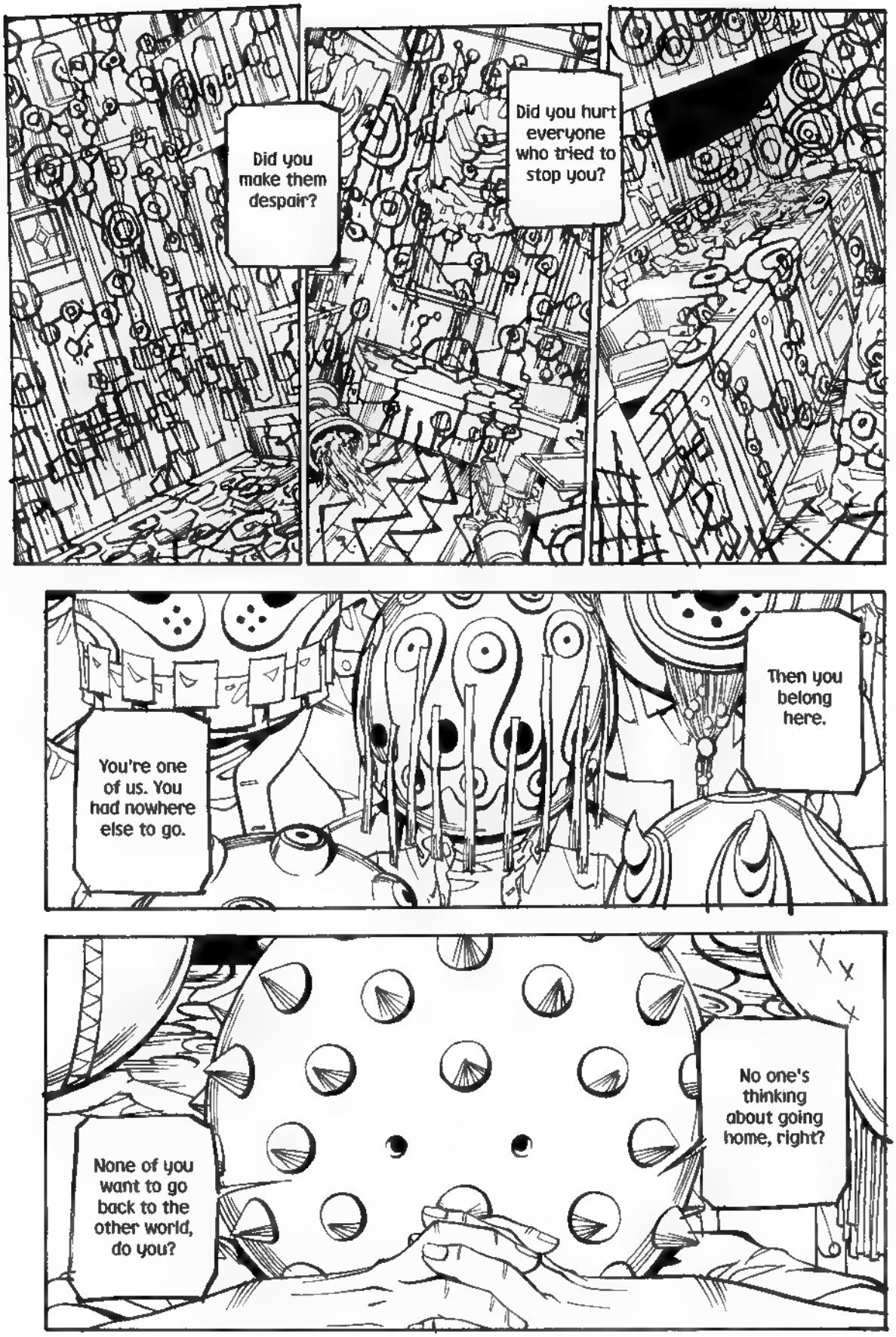
...
Oh yes...
They're in no condition to tell us anything...

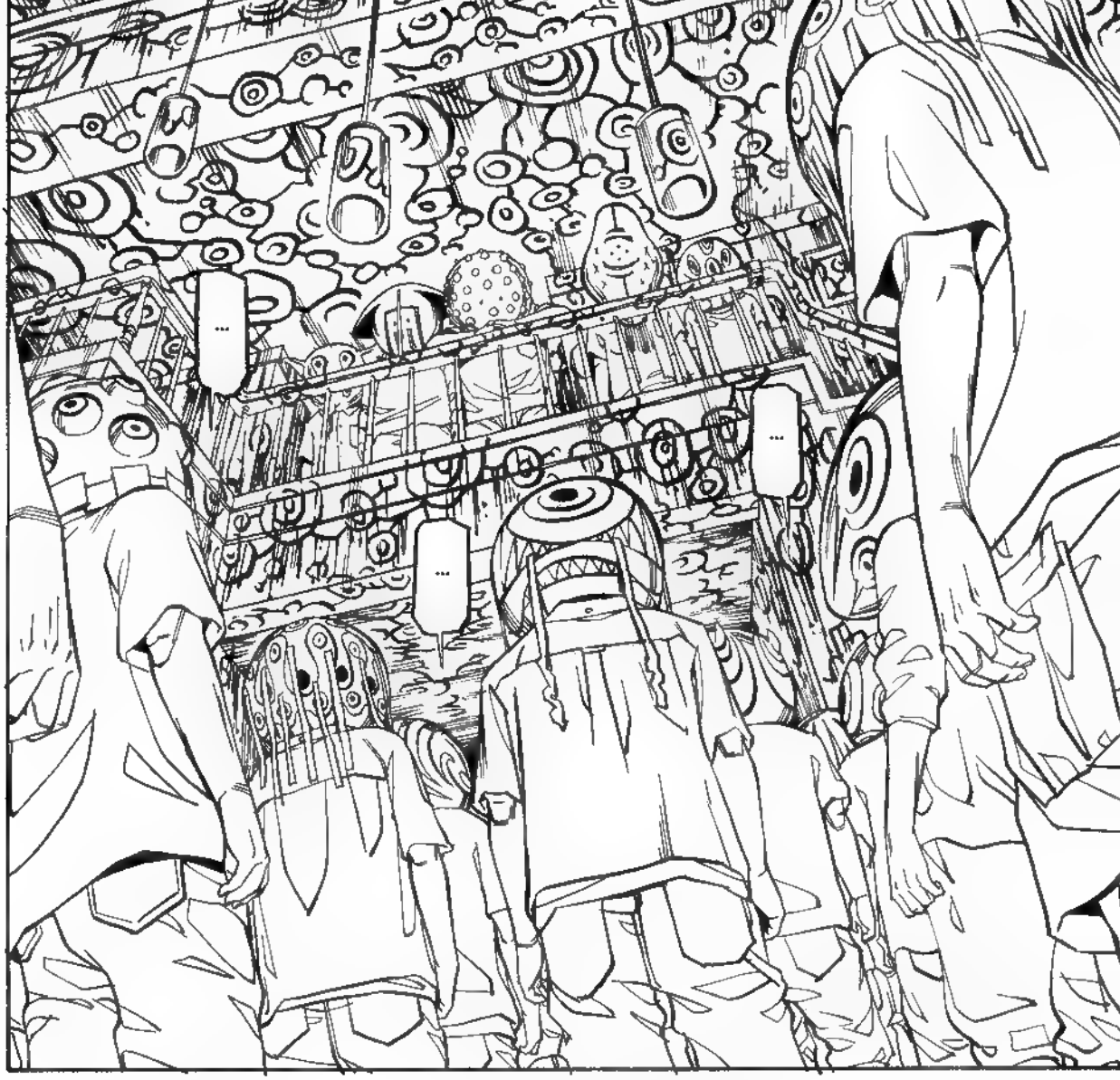

Wait, wait, where am I? What was I doing?
...
Is it morning? Night? What day of the week is it?
Owwww! Wh-wh-what's going on?!
...
CRASH
Oww!

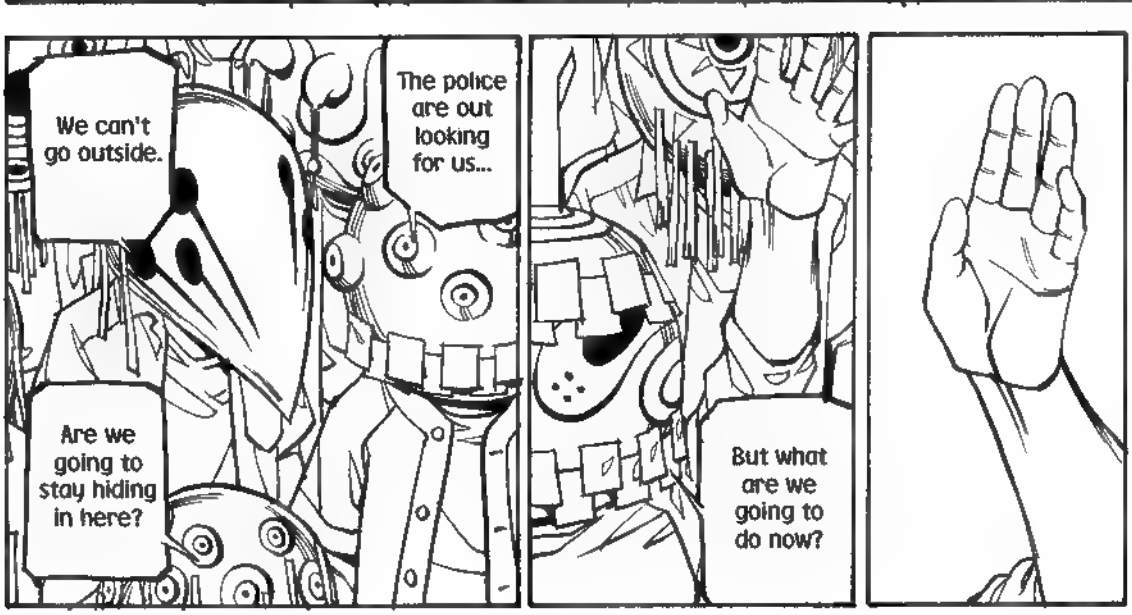

Is that why he's hiding...?
Was my son part of the violence that took place the other night...?
Umm...
Seeing my son with that strange costume on...
...really, really terrified me!
What are you guys talking about?
F-f-first, we need to locate the missing children...
W-we can't jump to conclu-sions yet...
I couldn't understand what he was thinking... What he was trying to do...
I felt like I no longer knew my son...

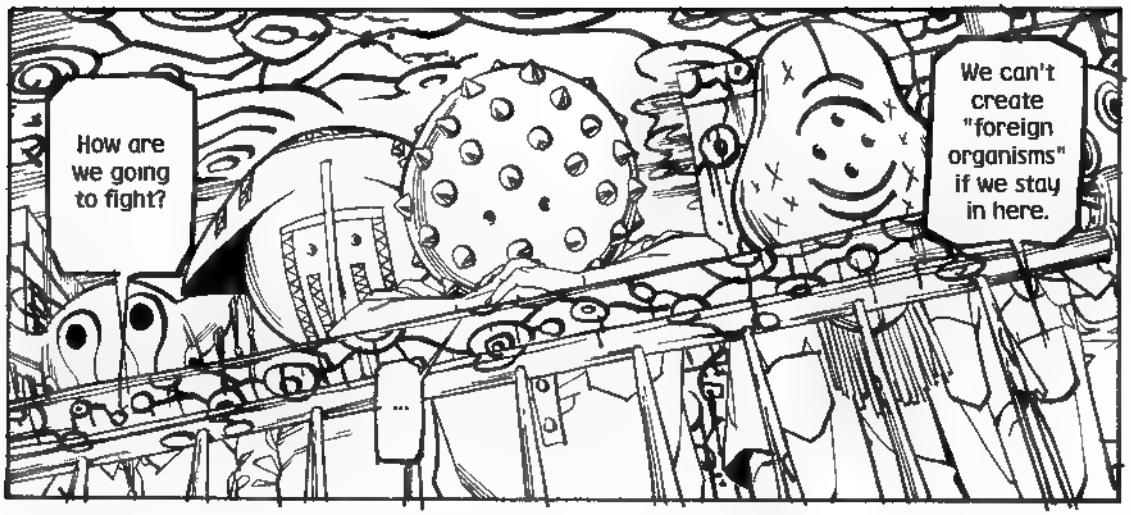

It was almost as if... Some sort of freakish monster...
...had suddenly appeared inside our house.

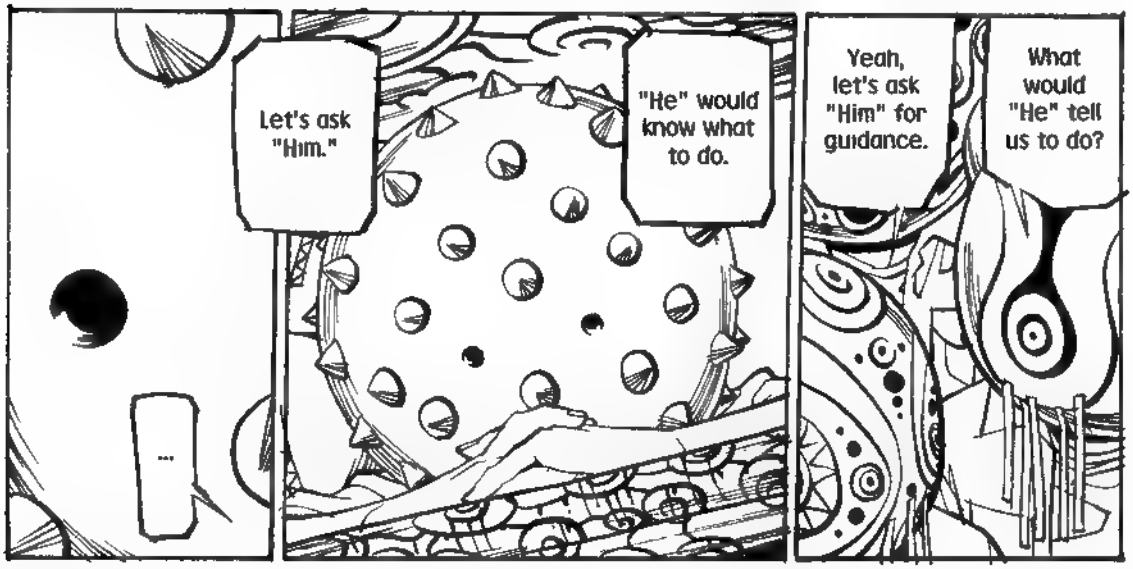


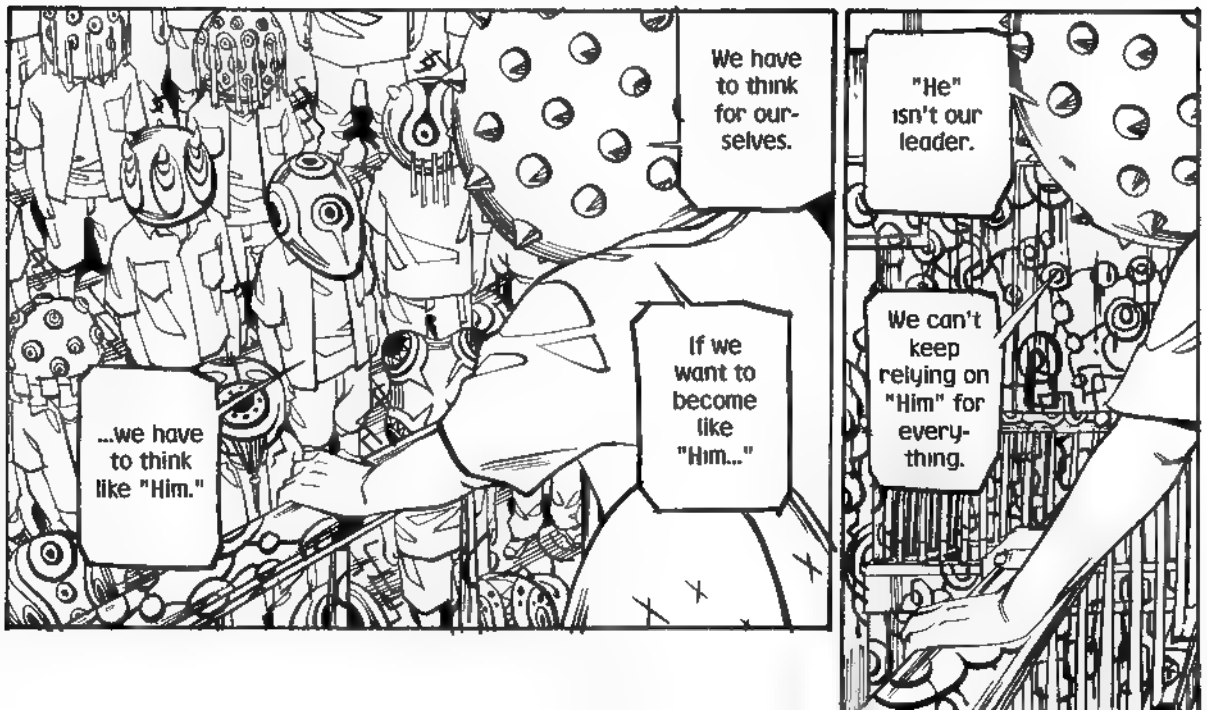

Did you make them despair?
Did you hurt everyone who tried to stop you?
You're one of us. You had nowhere else to go.
Then you belong here.
None of you want to go back to the other world, do you?
No one's thinking about going home, right?

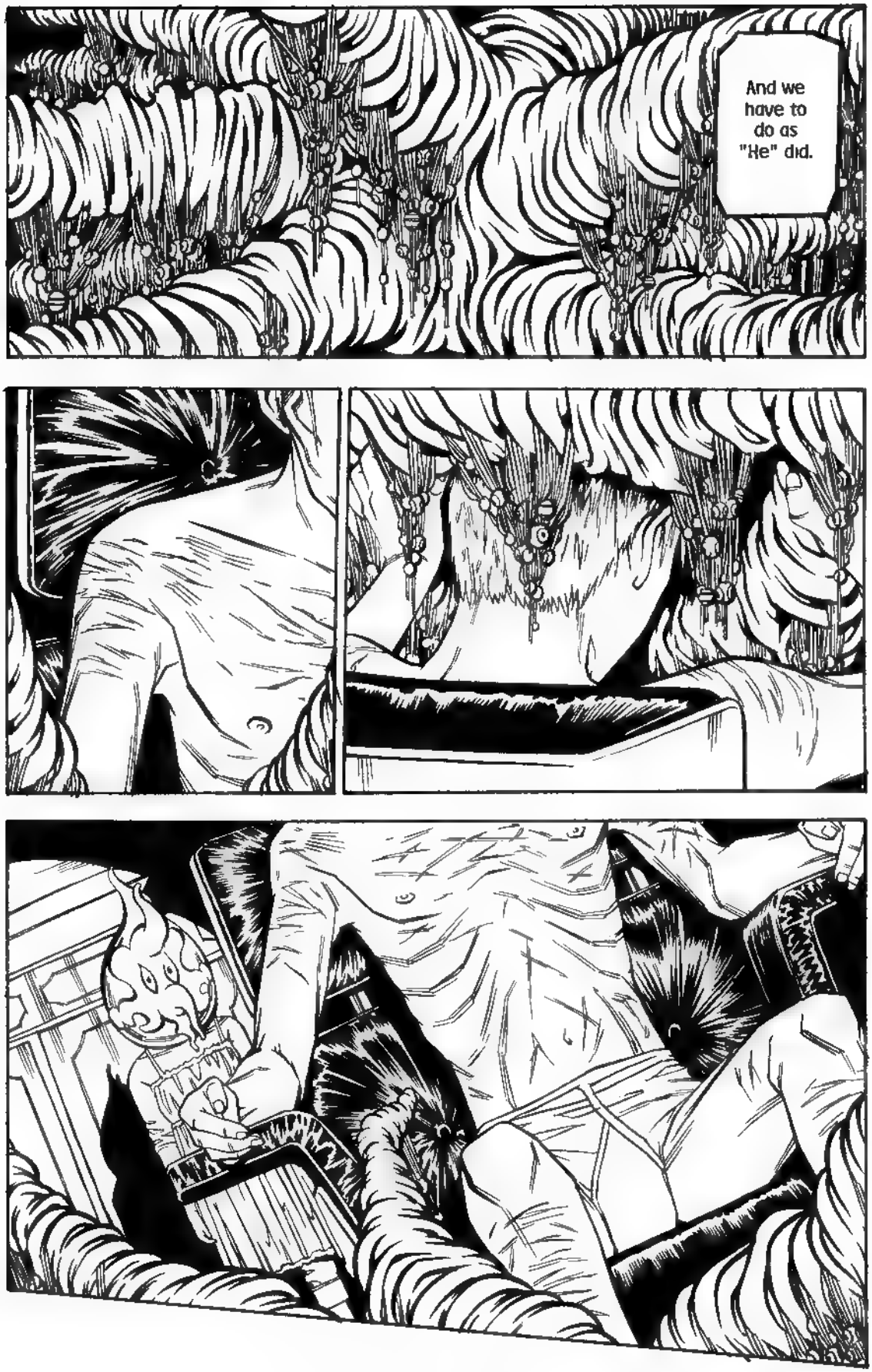

...
...
...

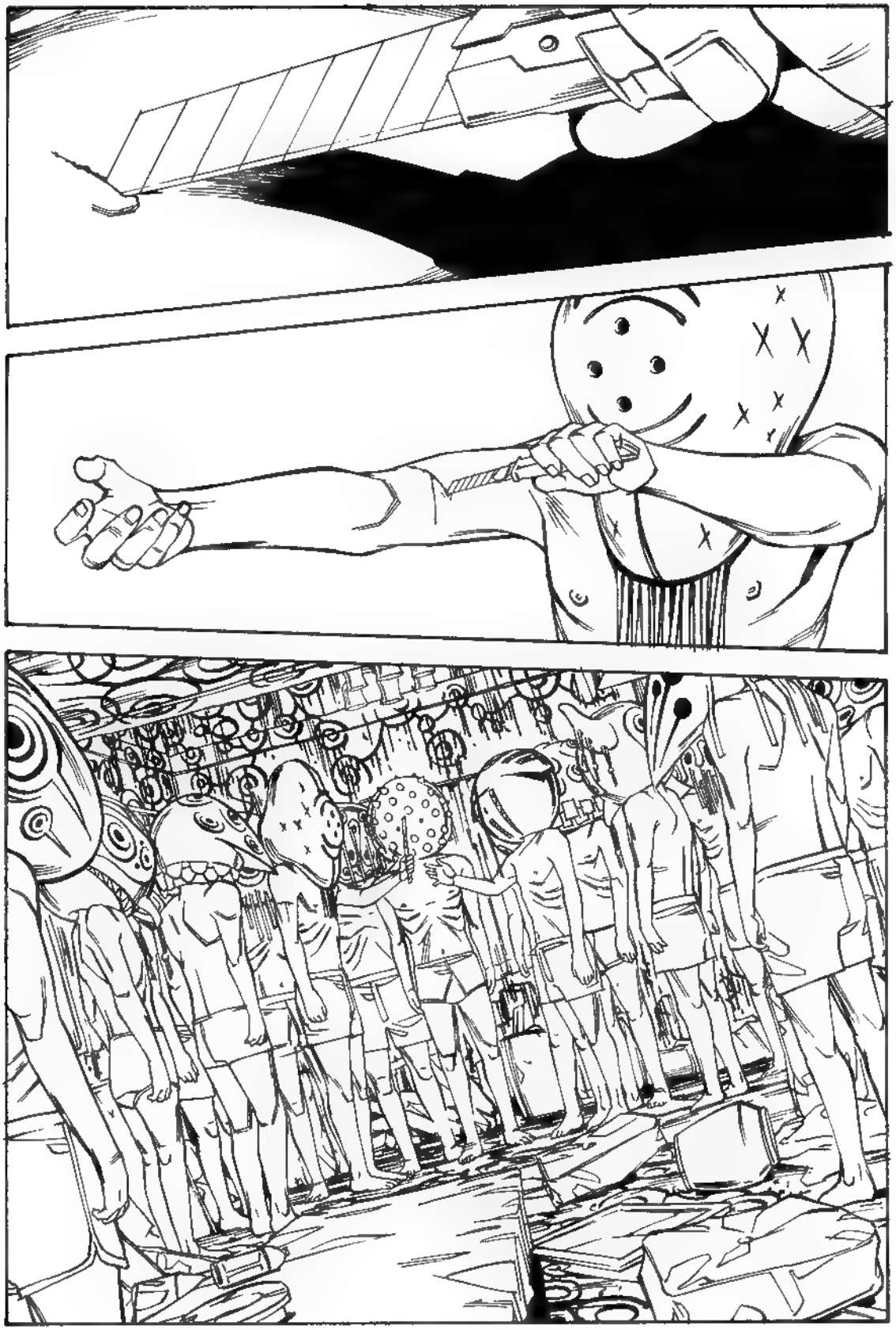

We can't go outside.
The police are out looking for us...
Are we going to stay hiding in here?
But what are we going to do now?

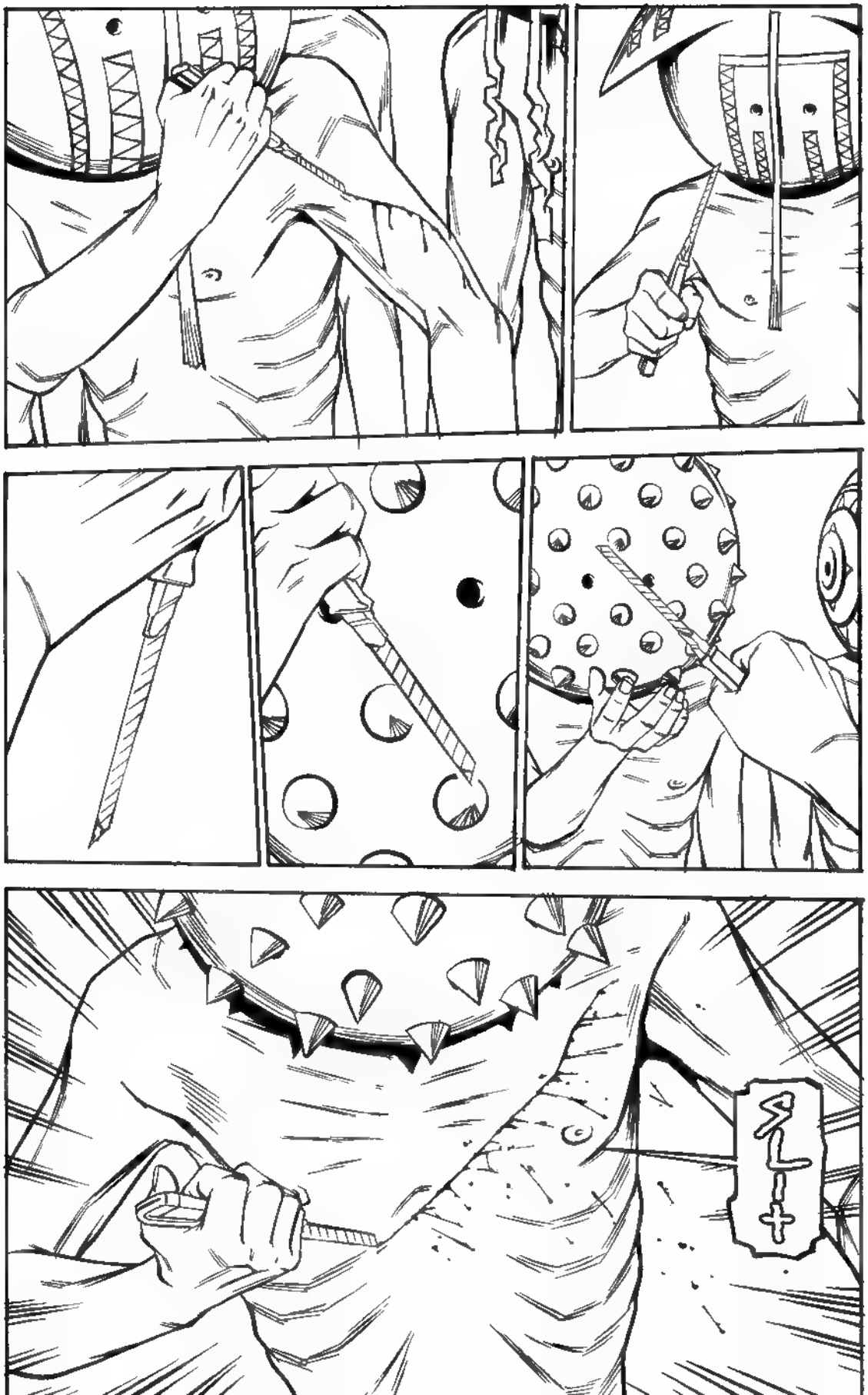

How are we going to fight?
...
We can't create "foreign organisms" if we stay in here.


Let's ask "Him."
...
"He" would know what to do.
Yeah, let's ask "Him" for guidance.
What would "He" tell us to do?

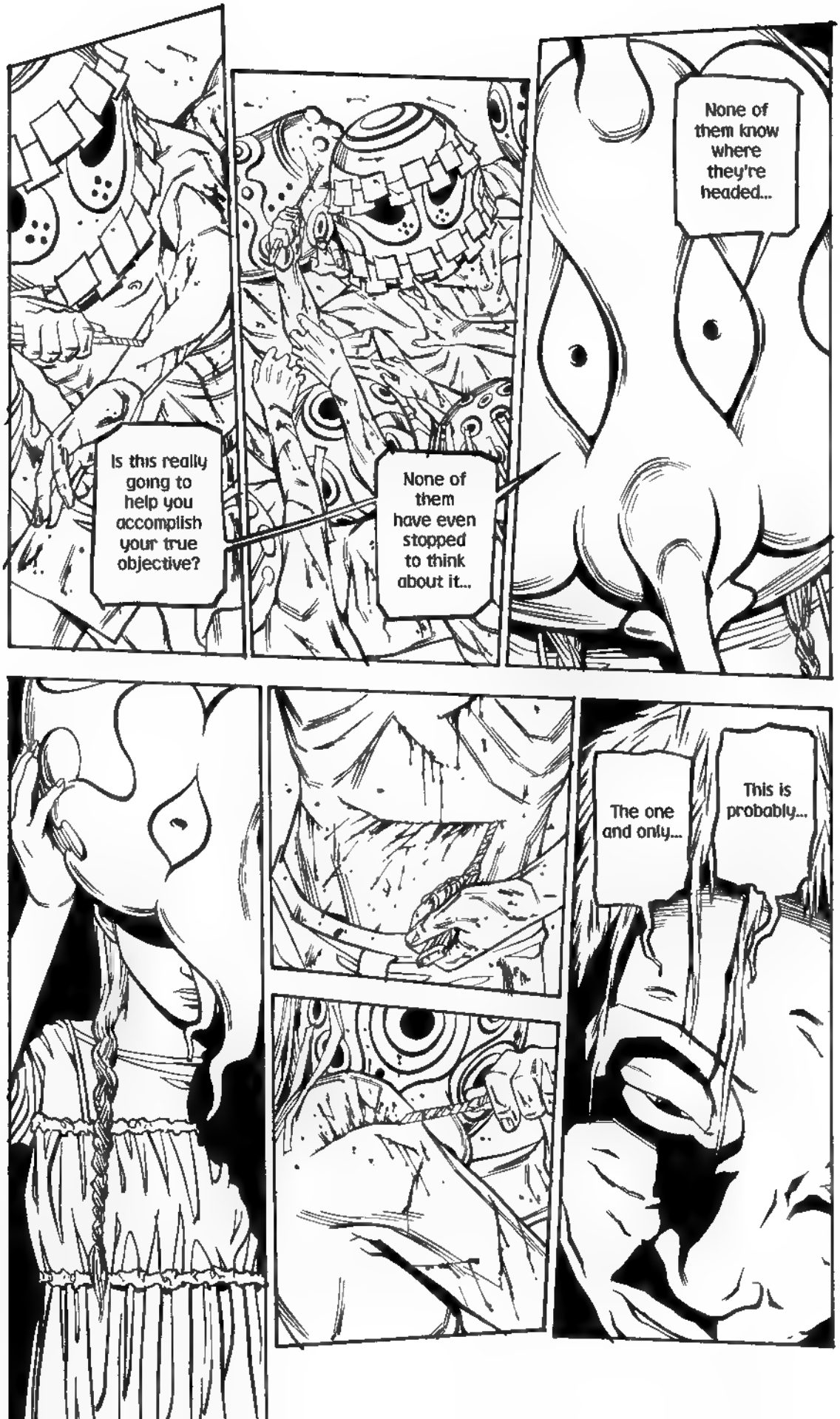

...we have to think like "Him."
We have to think for ourselves.
If we want to become like "Him..."
"He" isn't our leader.
We can't keep relying on "Him" for everything.


And we have to do as "He" did.

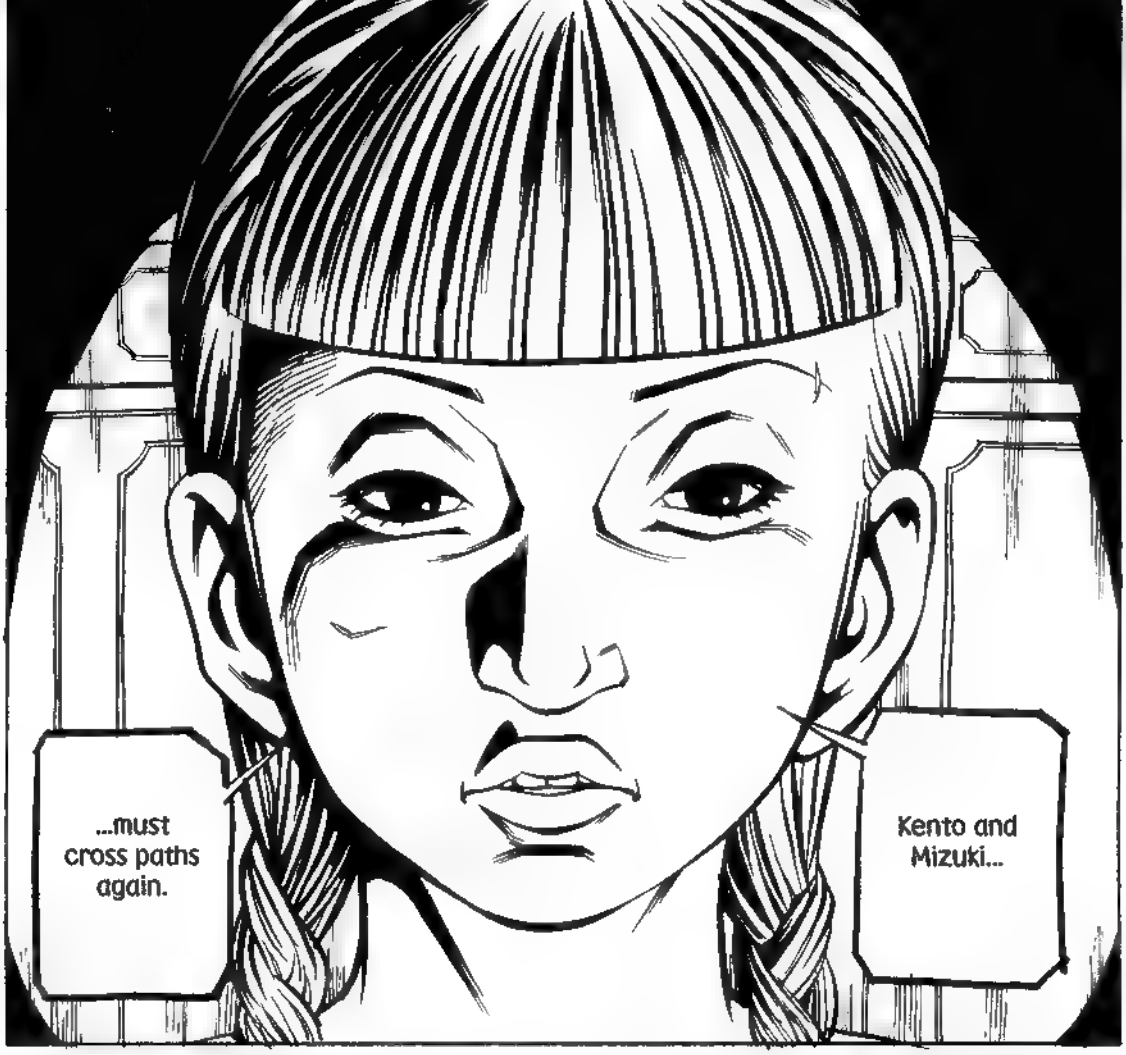



ネル

They will become...
..."foreign organisms."
Are you sure this is the way?
This is what you wanted, Kento?
The one and only...
This is... Probably...


None of them know where they're headed...
None of them have even stopped to think about it...
Is this really going to help you accomplish your true objective?
This is probably...
The one and only...

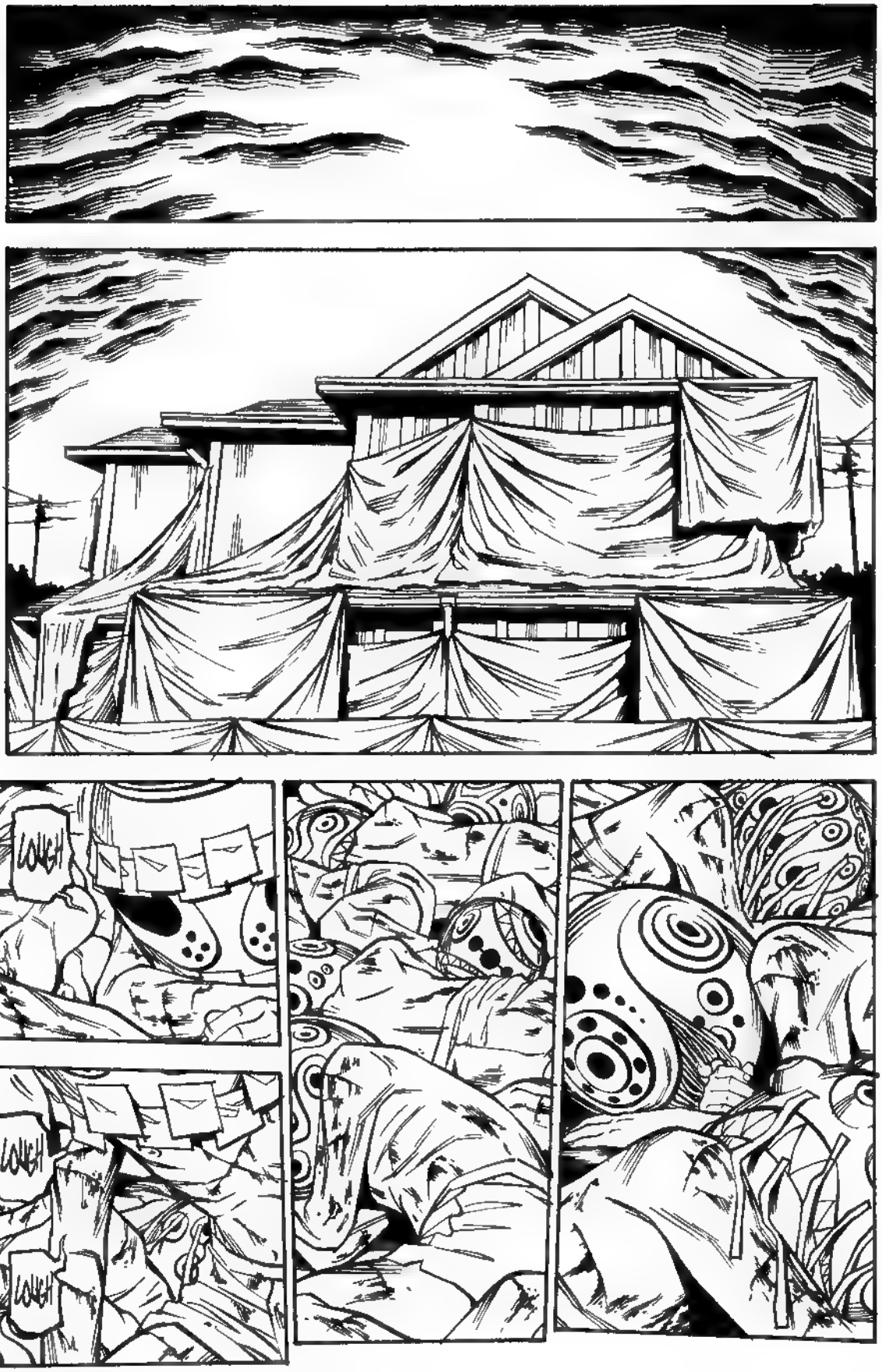
This was never meant to happen...
But now it absolutely must happen, no matter what it takes...

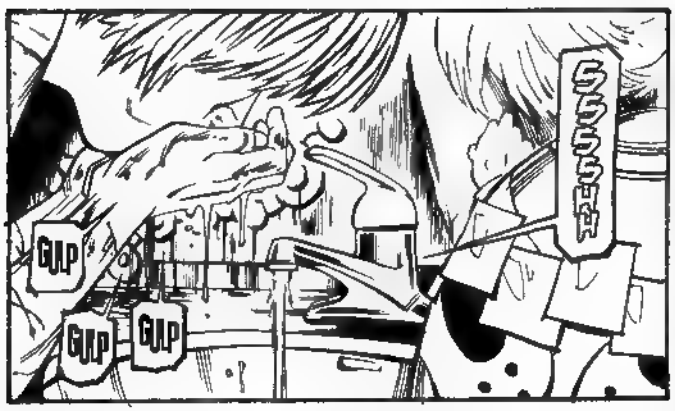

...must cross paths again.
Kento and Mizuki...

SOIL
Block 2-16 [End]

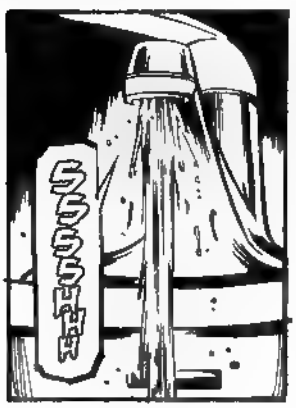
SOIL

Block 2-17 [Blue Sheet]


LOUGH
LOUGH
LOUGH


GULP
GULP
GULP
SSSSSHH

SSSSSHH

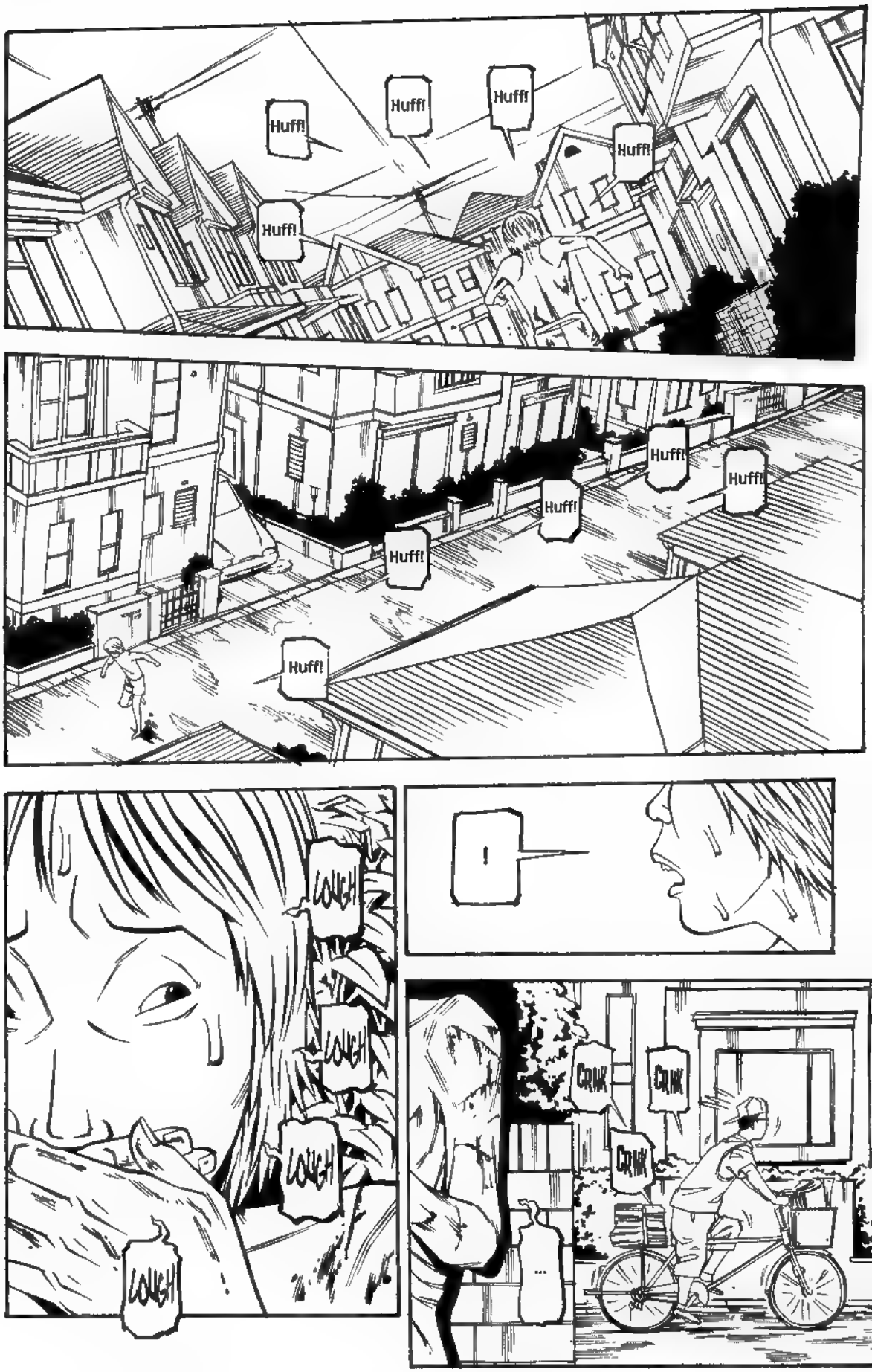

SSSSSHH

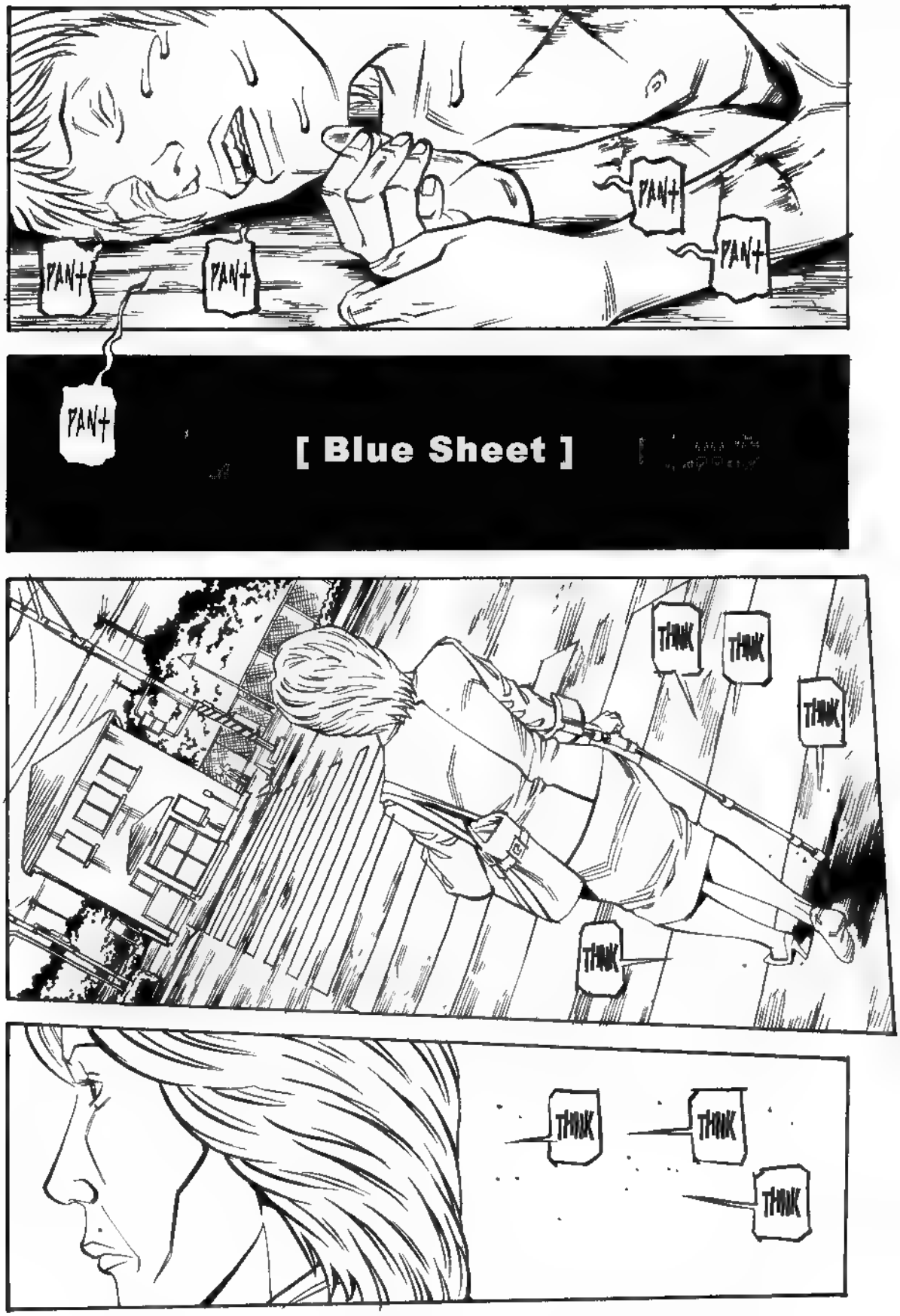
OW!

SSSHH
SSSHH

FSSSSSHHH

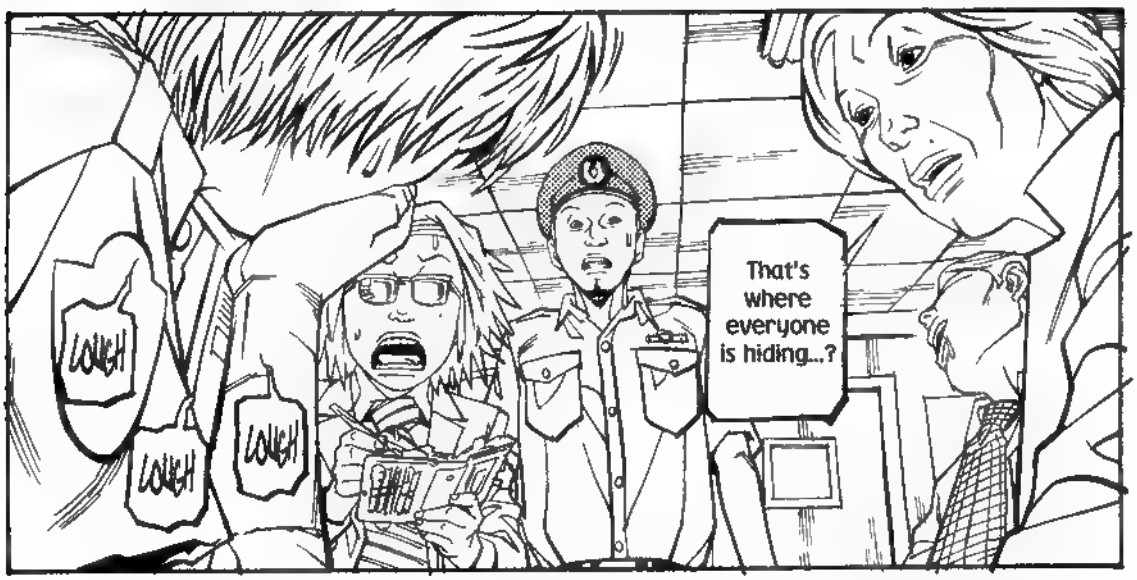
SSSHH
BLOCK 2-17

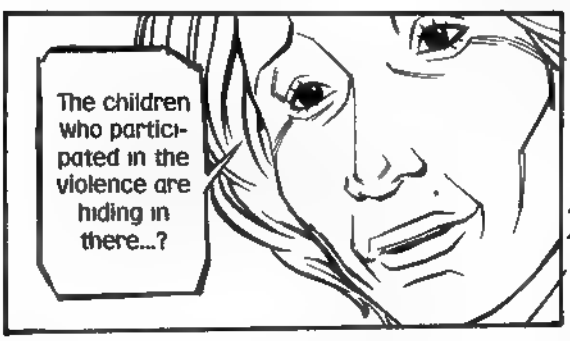

Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
!
LOUGH
LOUGH
LOUGH
LOUGH
...
CRINK
CRINK
CRINK


PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
[Blue Sheet]
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK

Th-th-th-thank you for coming!
ZZZZZZ
This child...?
Yes, we think he's one of the missing children.
...
Do you know him well...?
Yes... He came in for counseling a few times...
He's terrified. Won't tell us anything.
But he said he was willing to talk to you, Ms. Kosaka...

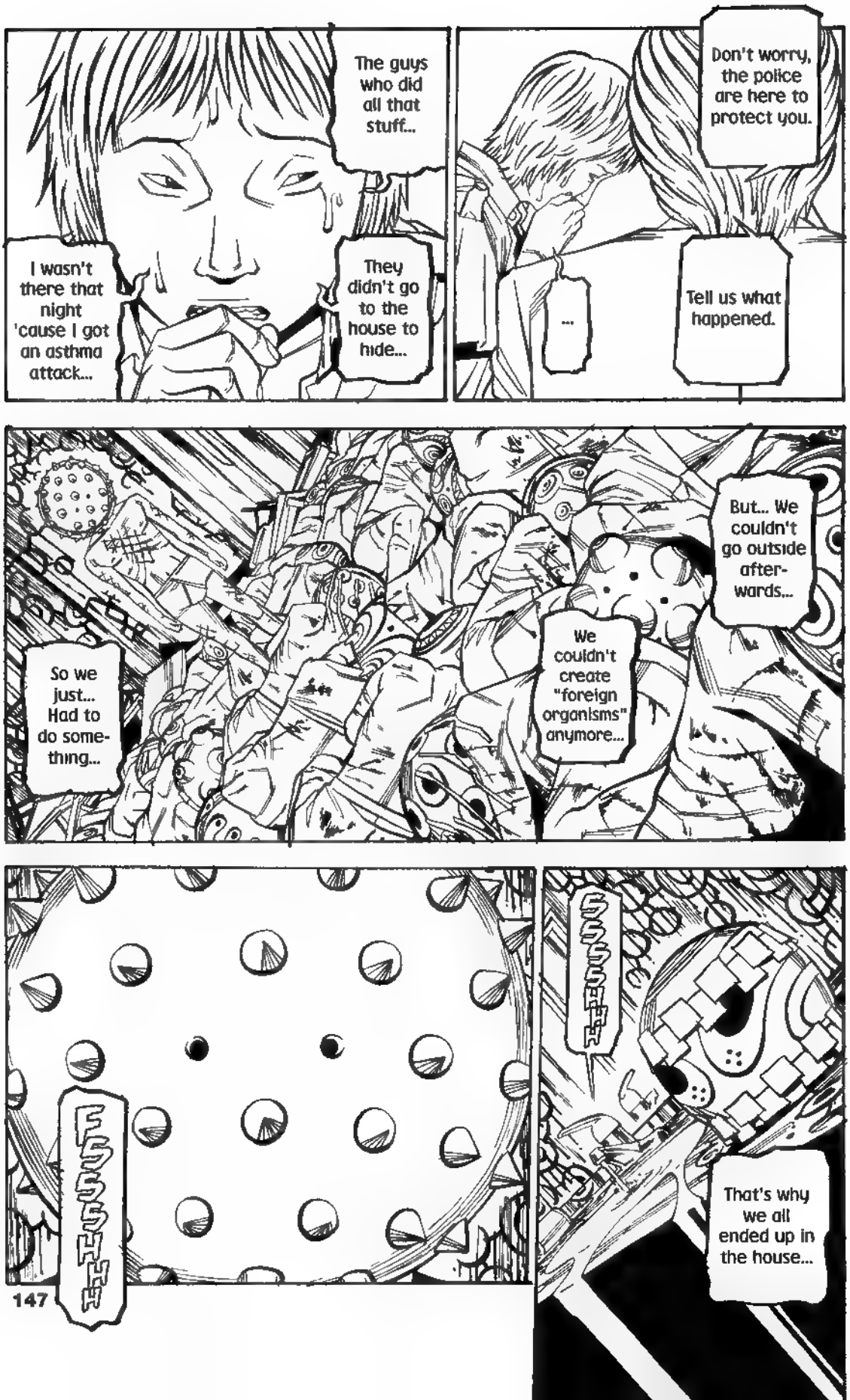
The council president's house...?


That's where everyone is hiding...?
LOUGH
LOUGH
LOUGH


The children who participated in the violence are hiding in there...?

Damn it, I knew we should've gotten rid of them...
Oh yeah, we couldn't see inside 'cause of those blue sheets...!
...

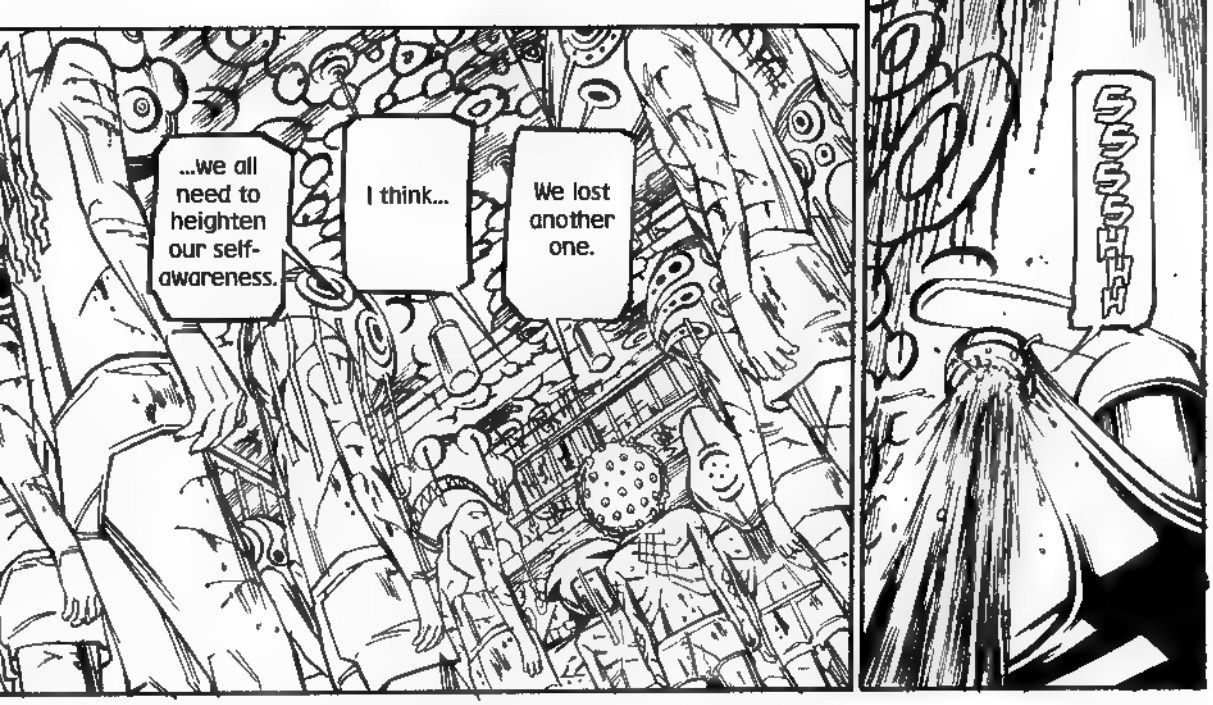
...
LOUGH
LOUGH

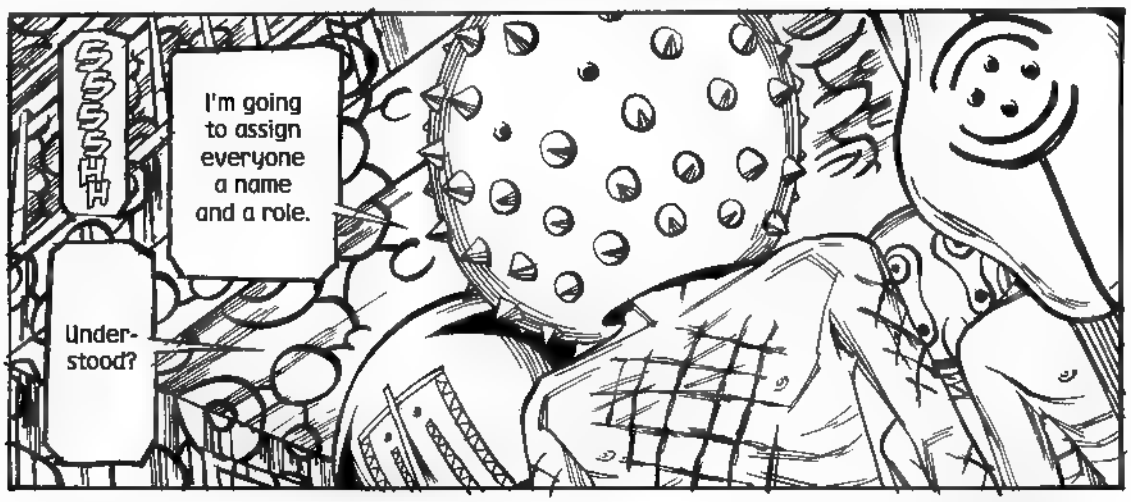

I wasn't there that night 'cause I got an asthma attack...
The guys who did all that stuff...
They didn't go to the house to hide...
...
Don't worry, the police are here to protect you.
Tell us what happened.
So we just... Had to do something...
We couldn't create "foreign organisms" anymore...
But... We couldn't go outside afterwards...
That's why we all ended up in the house...
GUUUUH
GUUUUH

I can tell my friends apart, but... I have no idea who the others are...
I mean... Everyone wore a mask...
...
What are their names...? Even a grade or class would help...
Huh?
I don't know who they are.
...once you're inside that house.
FUUUHH
It's like you turn into *nobody*...
Please, tell us...
...
I-i-isn't there someone who gives you orders?!
Wh-what about the leader...?!
There isn't really a... Leader...
There's a hierarchy, but...

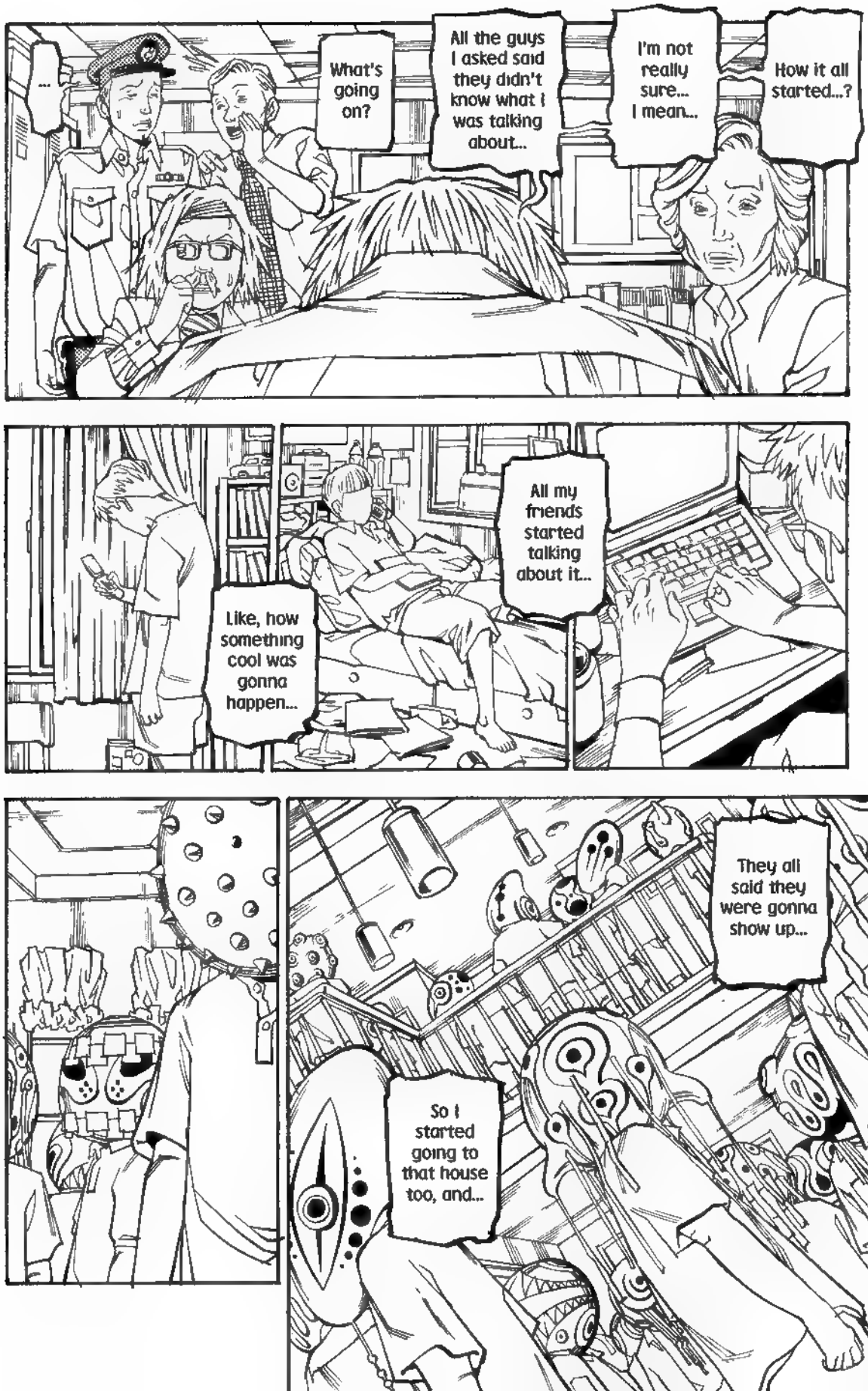
There was someone who knew how to do it...
He's not really our leader, but...
...
ZZZZZZ
B-b-but there must have been an instiga-tor...
S-s-someone who intro-duced the idea of the "foreign organism..."
Tell us...
Who is he...?
Who...
Kento Miyahara...
Kento...

CRASH
Owwwwww!
Ke...
K-K-K-K-
Kento
Miyahara...
OOZE
Is in
"Soil"...?!


...we all need to heighten our self-awareness.
I think...
We lost another one.
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ


ゴゴゴゴゴゴ
I'm going to assign everyone a name and a role.
Under-stood?

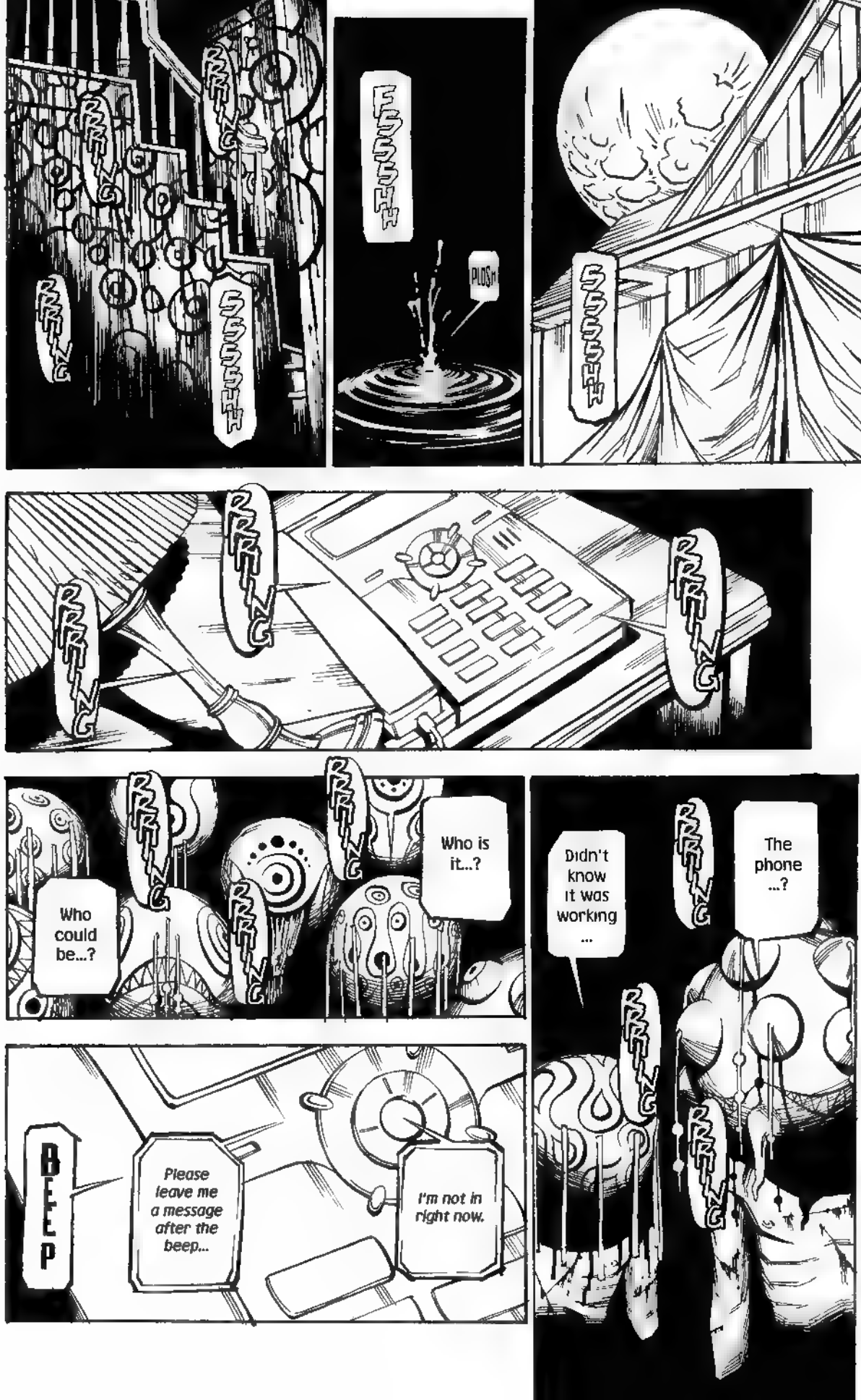
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ


...
What's going on?
All the guys I asked said they didn't know what I was talking about...
I'm not really sure... I mean...
How it all started...?
Like, how something cool was gonna happen...
All my friends started talking about it...
So I started going to that house too, and...
They all said they were gonna show up...

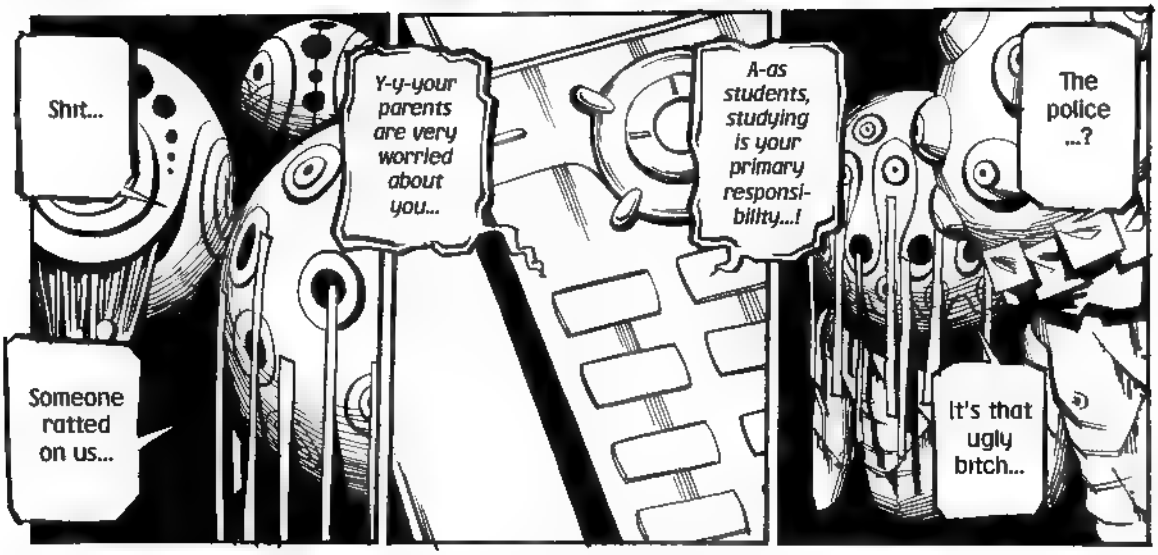
That's where...
...I saw Kento.
We just liked making the town all confused...
Like playing pranks and stuff...
None of us really understood what "He" was talking about, at first...

LOUGH
LOUGH
LOUGH
What do you mean...?
But then...
We began to realize what this was all about...
Fighting the rest of the world...
That we're fighting...
LOUGH
LOUGH
LOUGH
Destroy it...
Destroy...
LOUGH
LOUGH
LOUGH
We keep fighting until we destroy this town...
Nothing can stop us...
LOUGH
A battle that we have to fight no matter what it takes...
That this is a battle to protect our souls...
LOUGH
LOUGH
LOUGH

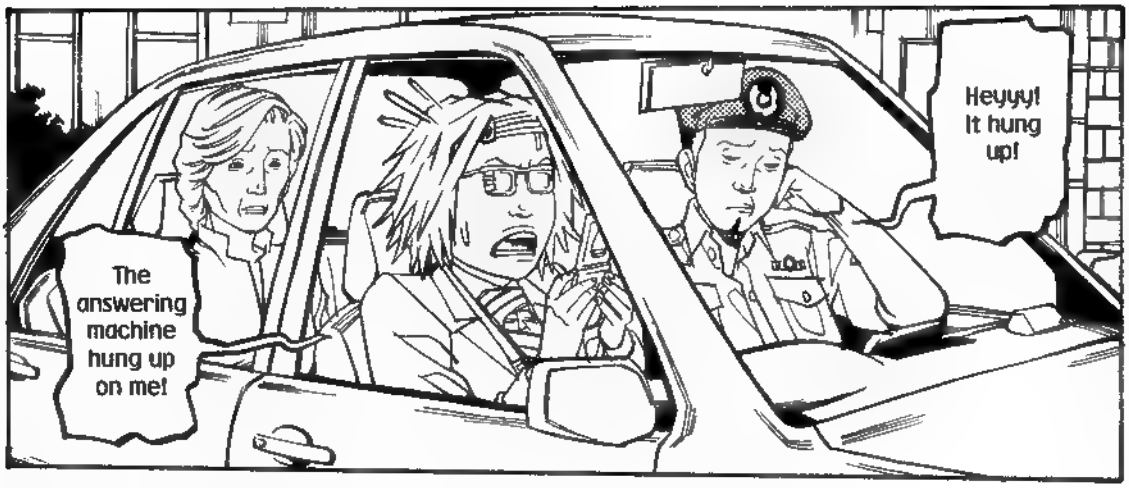
Isn't that why you came back...?
But then you realized that it was destroying you, too...
PANT
PANT
PANT
Uh... Uh...
Uh...
Uhh... Uh... Wahh...
...
Wahhh... Uhh... Wahh...
Wah... Wah... Wahhh...

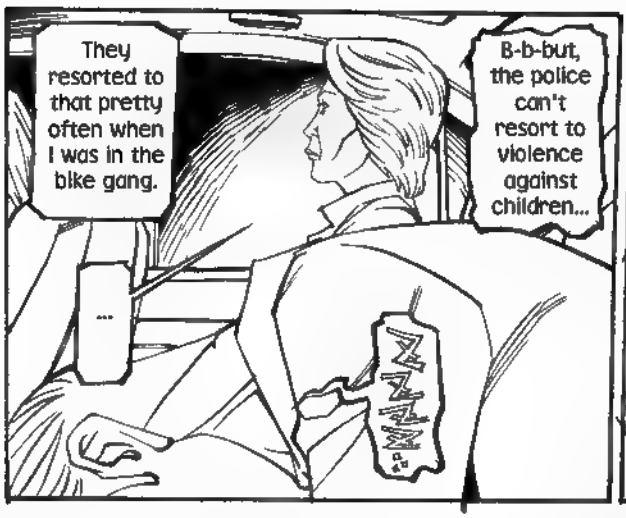

RRRING
RRRING
RRRING
SSSSHH
FSSSHH
PLOSH
SSSSHH
RRRING
RRRING
RRRING
RRRING
RRRING
Who could be...?
Who is it...?
Didn't know it was working ...
The phone ...?
RRRING
RRRING
RRRING
BEEP
Please leave me a message after the beep...
I'm not in right now.

Wh-what you are doing right now is called unlawful occupation...
Th-th-th-this is Detective Onoda from the Kamikawa Police Station!
E-e-exit that house immedi-ately...!

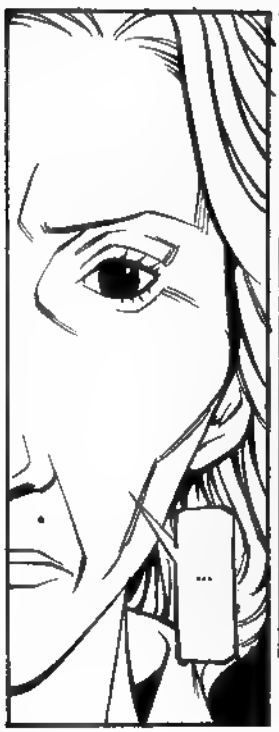

Shit...
Y-y-your parents are very worried about you...
A-as students, studying is your primary responsi-bility...!
The police ...?
Someone ratted on us...
It's that ugly bitch...

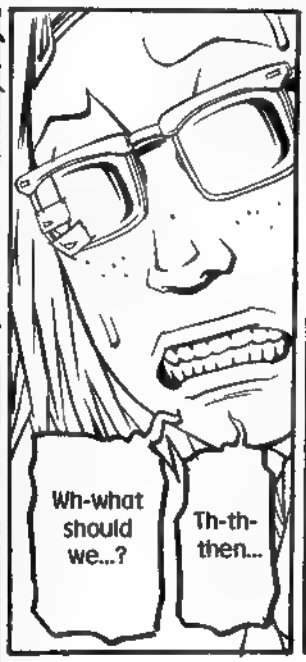
DICK


The answering machine hung up on me!
Heyyy! It hung up!

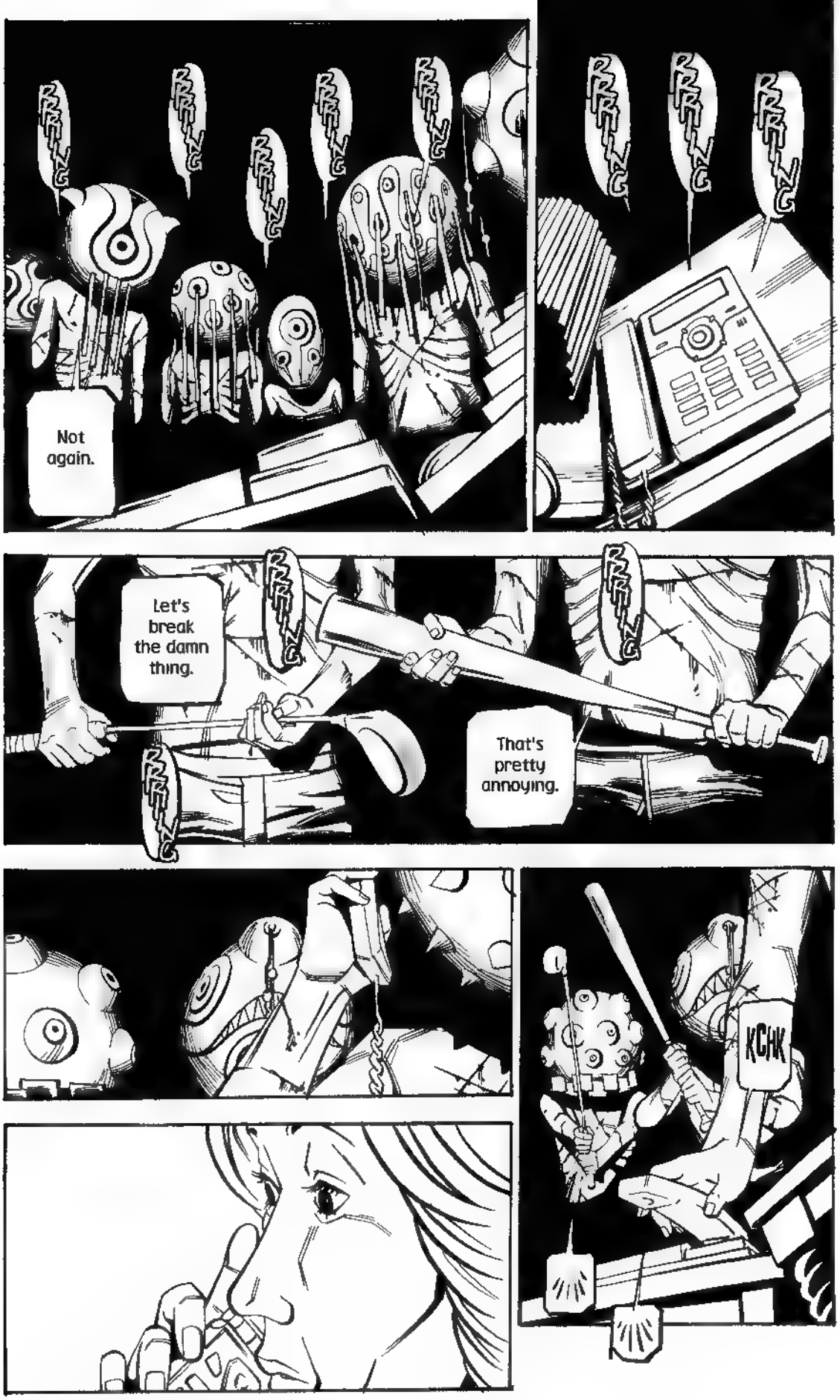

They resorted to that pretty often when I was in the bike gang.
B-b-but, the police can't resort to violence against children...
...
ZZZZZZ

We know where they're hiding, so if we rush the place...
Talking won't solve anything.

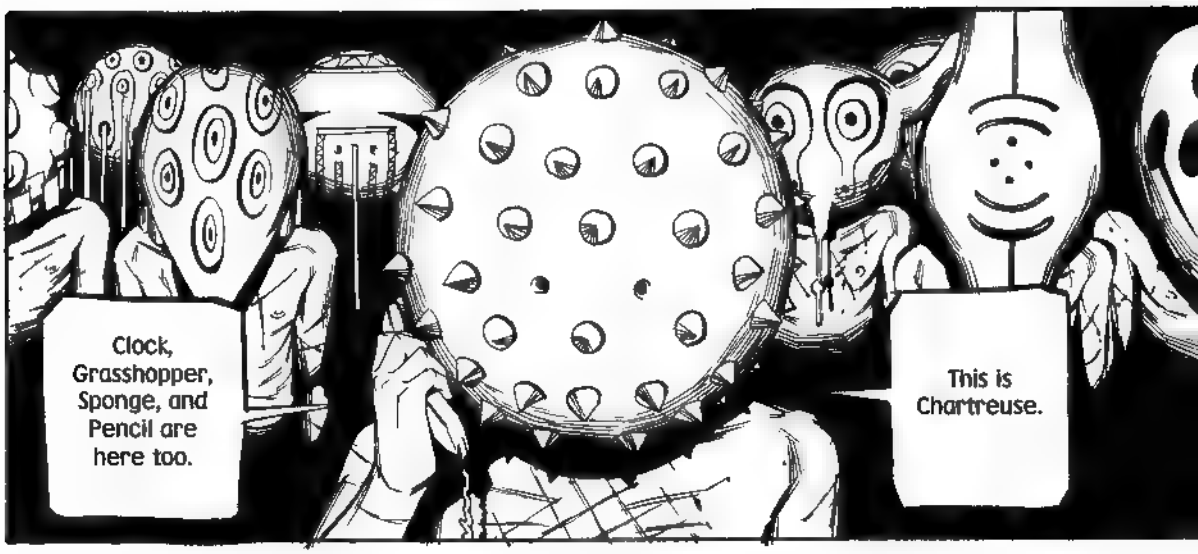

...

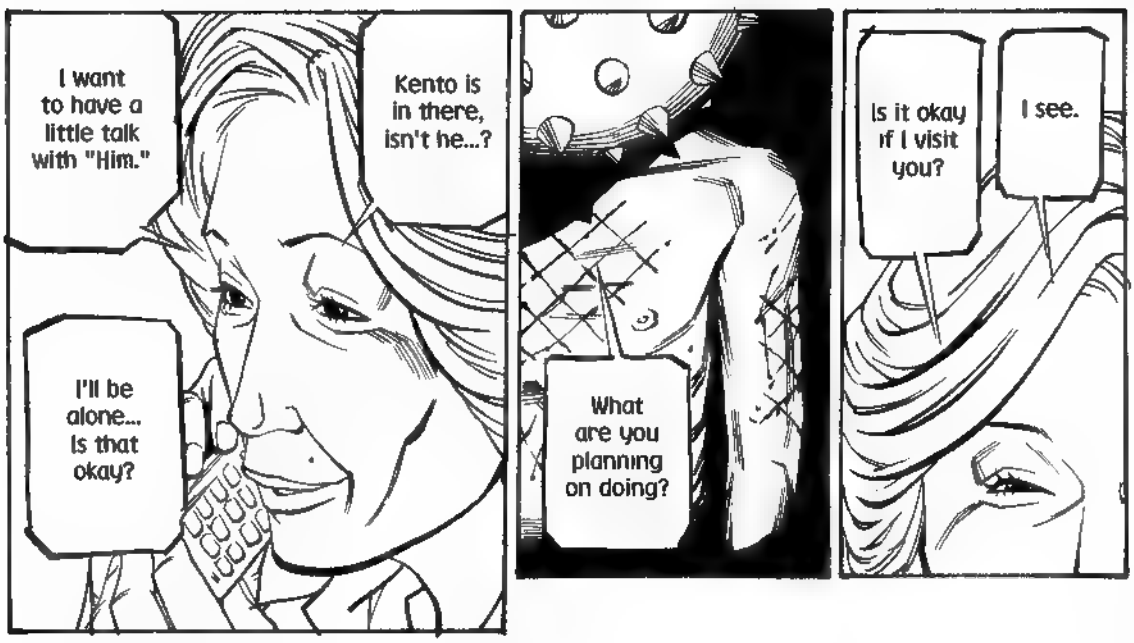

Wh-what should we...?
Th-th-then...

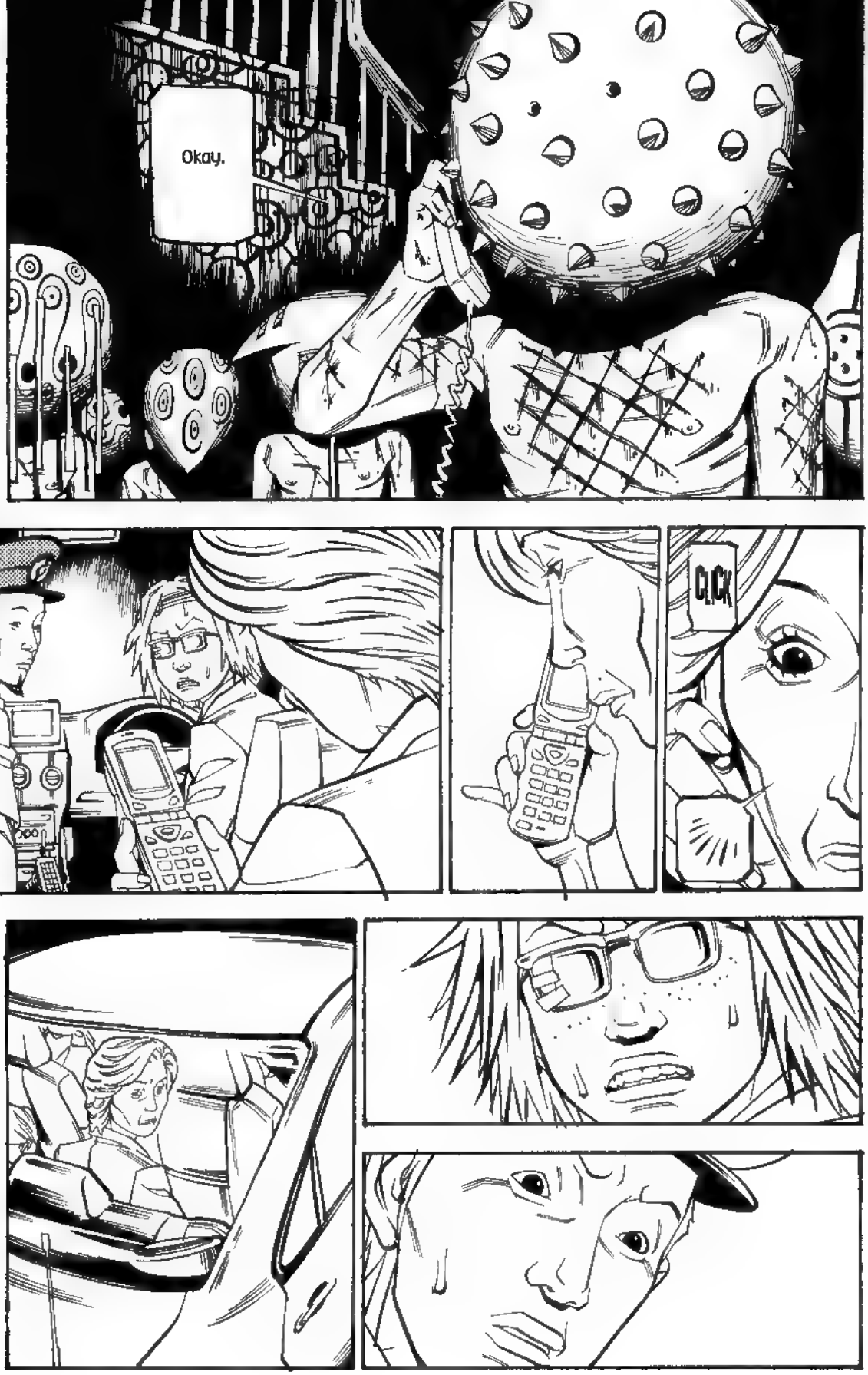
Force will only help to heighten their resolve.
They'll just find another place to hide themselves.

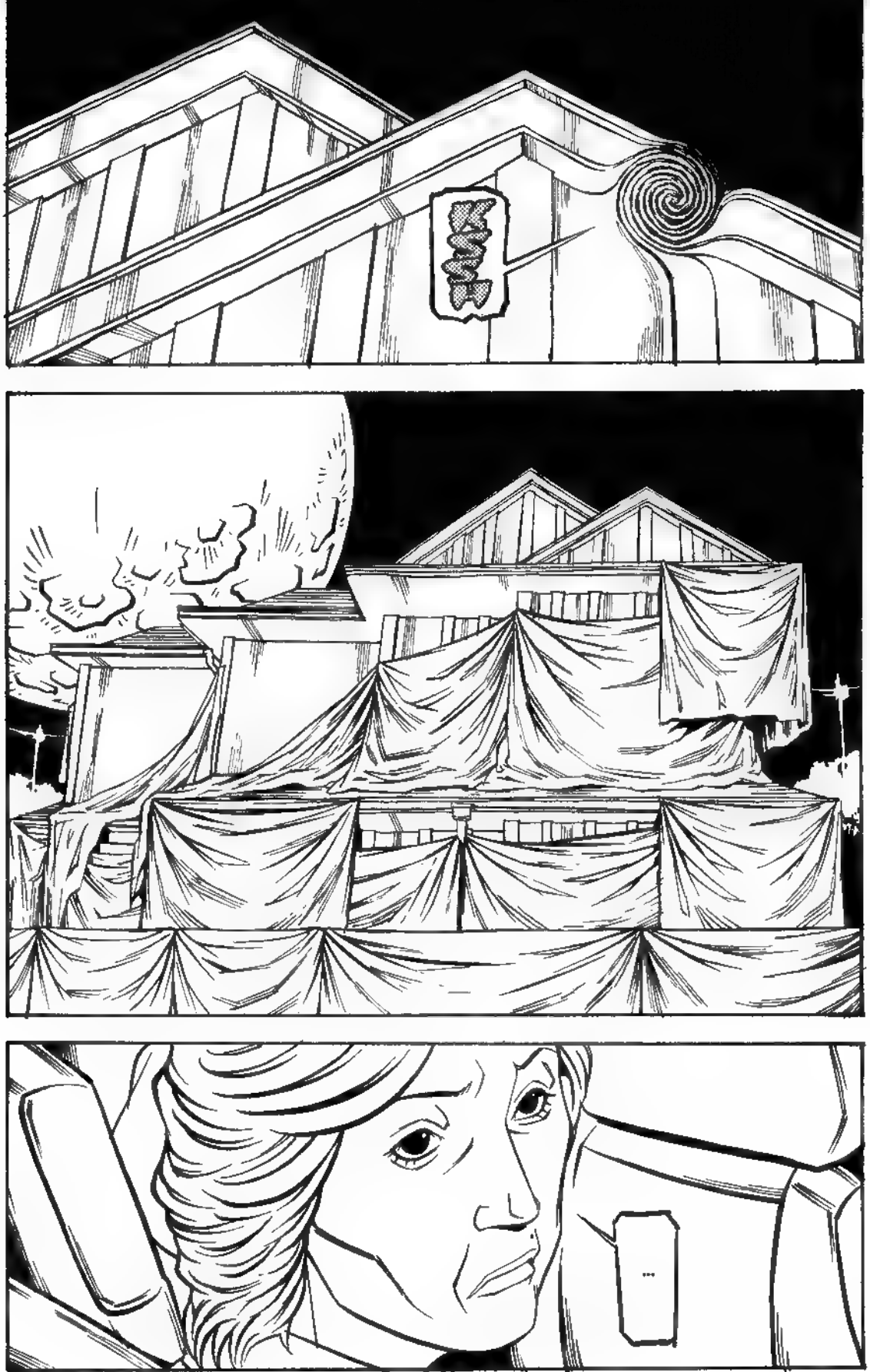

RRRING
RRRING
RRRING
RRRING
Not again.
RRRING
RRRING
RRRING
Let's break the damn thing.
RRRING
RRRING
That's pretty annoying.
KCHK

Who am I speaking to?
This is Kosaka, the school counselor.
...
...


Clock, Grasshopper, Sponge, and Pencil are here too.
This is Chartreuse.


I want to have a little talk with "Him."
Kento is in there, isn't he...?
I'll be alone... Is that okay?
What are you planning on doing?
Is it okay if I visit you?
I see.


Okay.
CLICK


KSSH
...

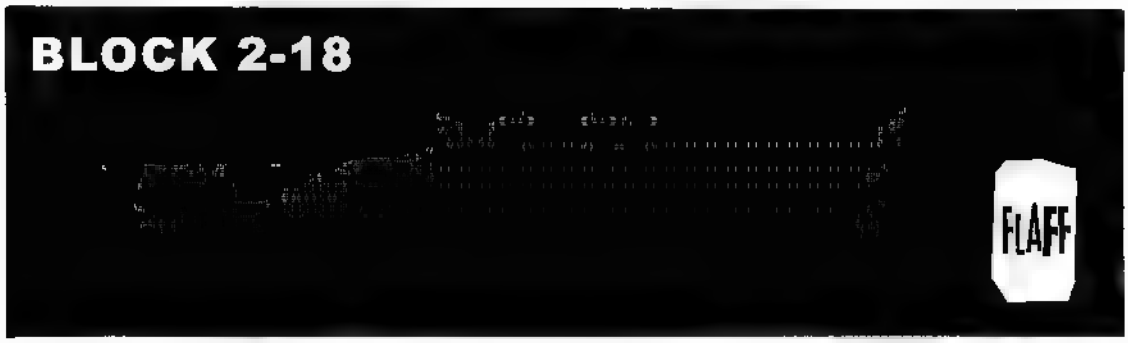
SOIL
Block 2-17 [End]

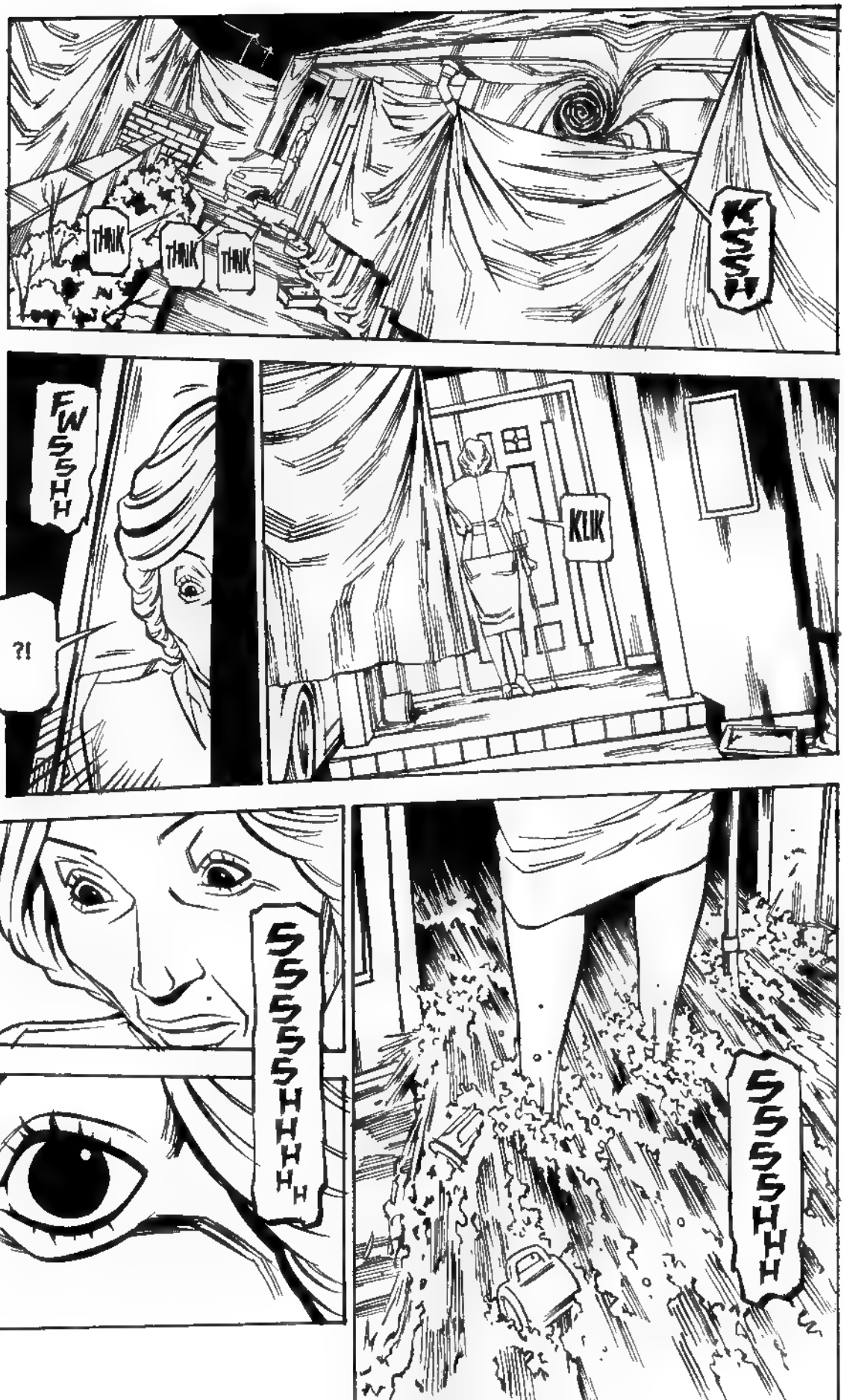
SOIL

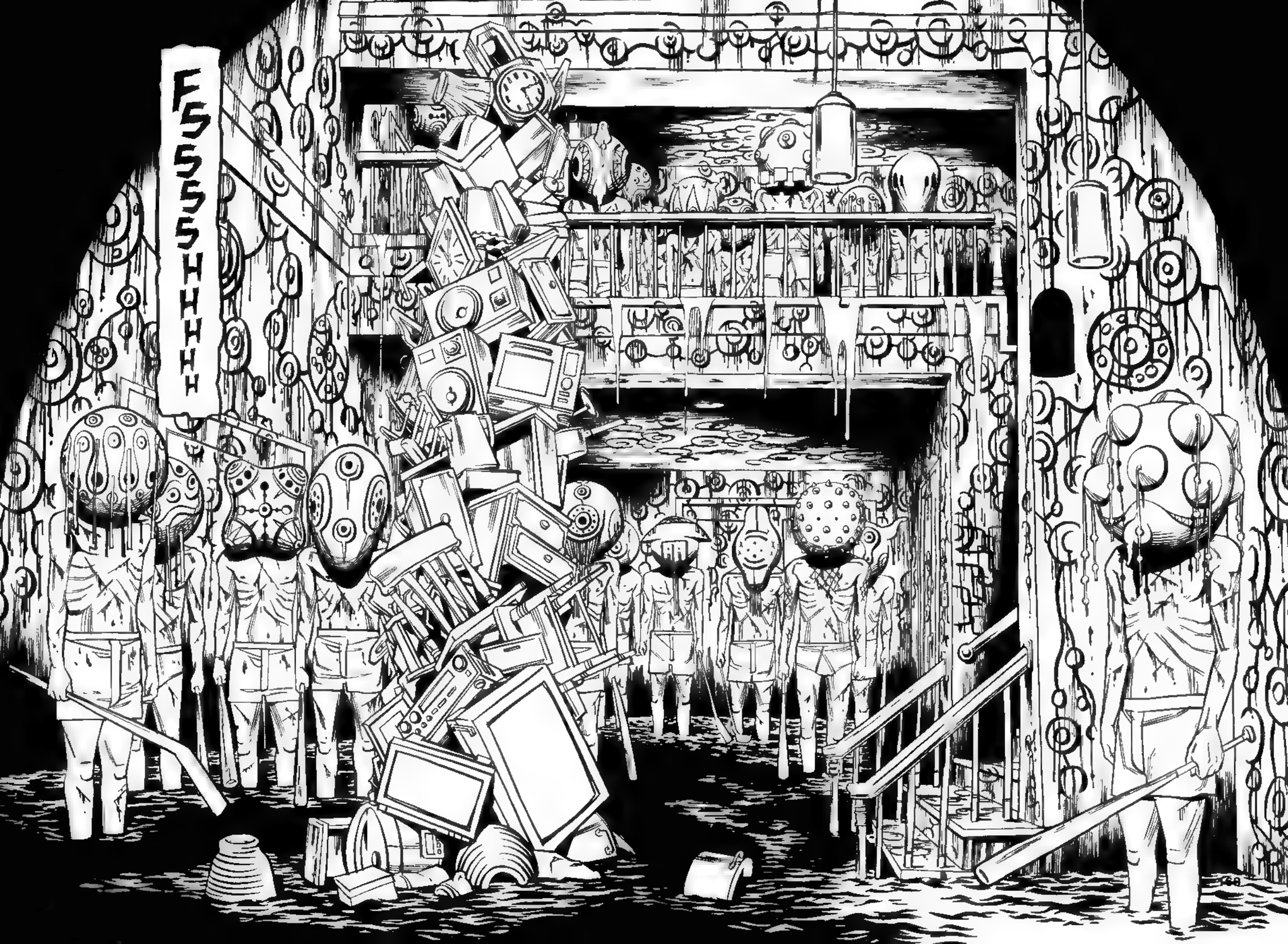
Block 2-18 [Defeat]

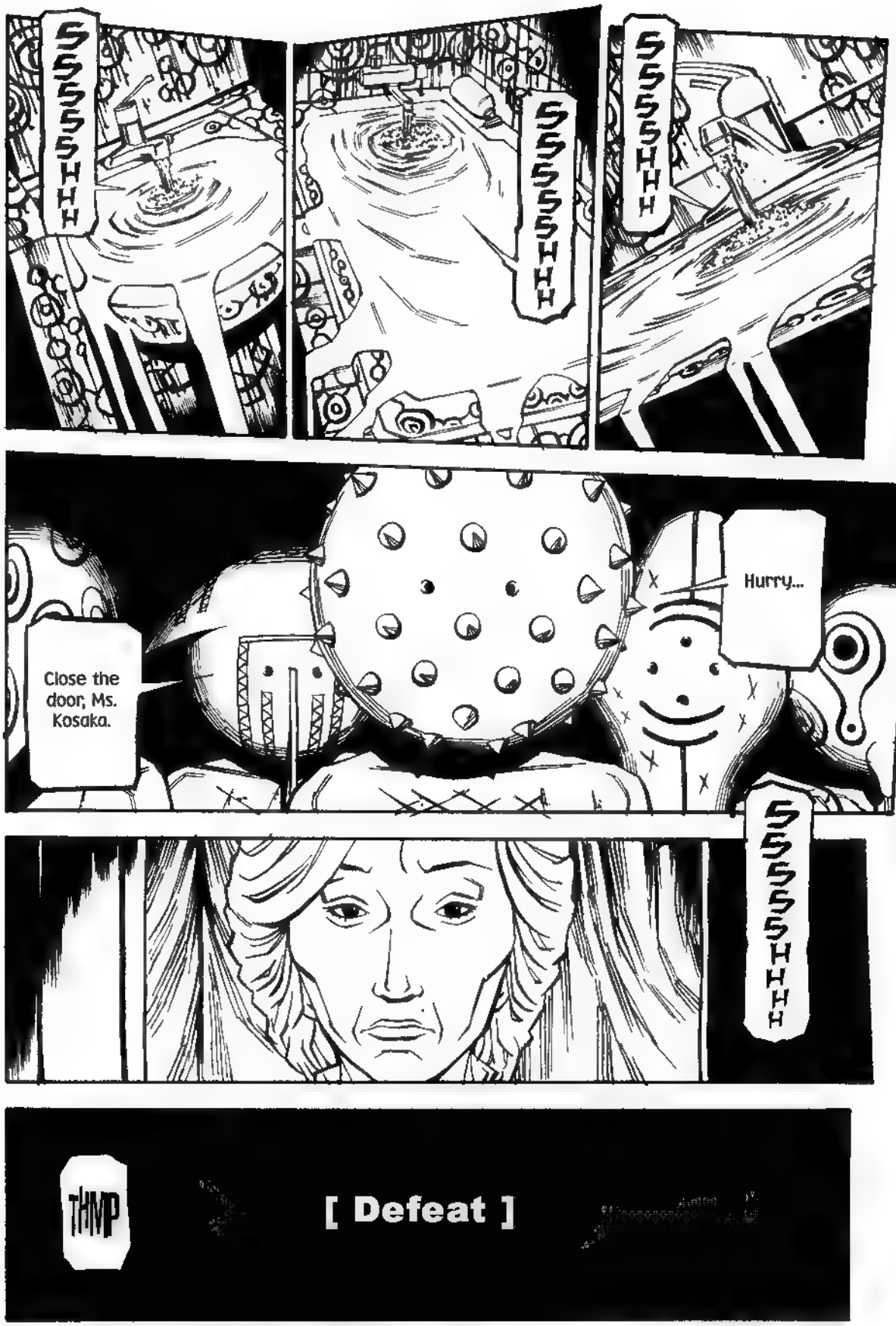
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK

...
THINK

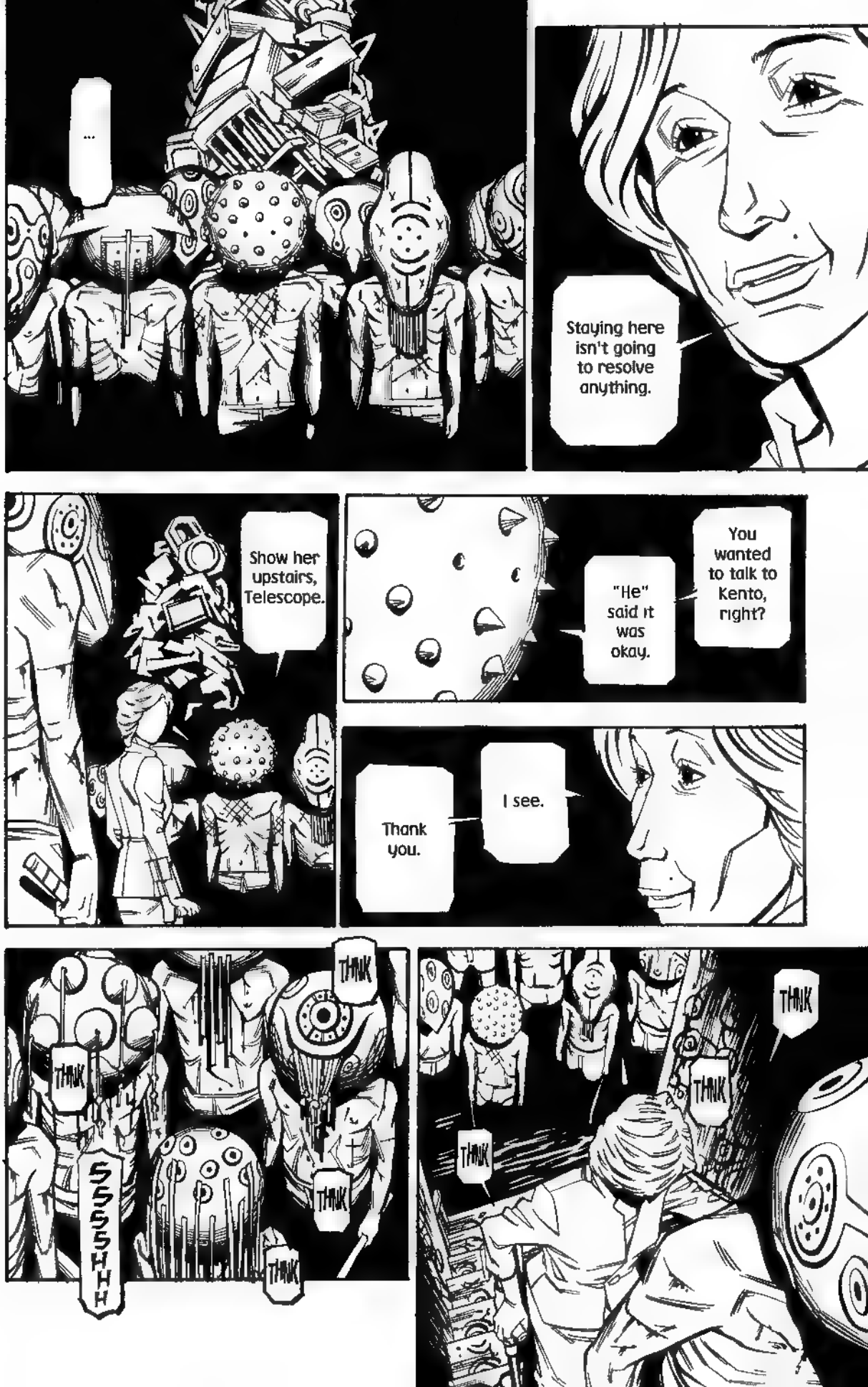

BLOCK 2-18
FLAFF

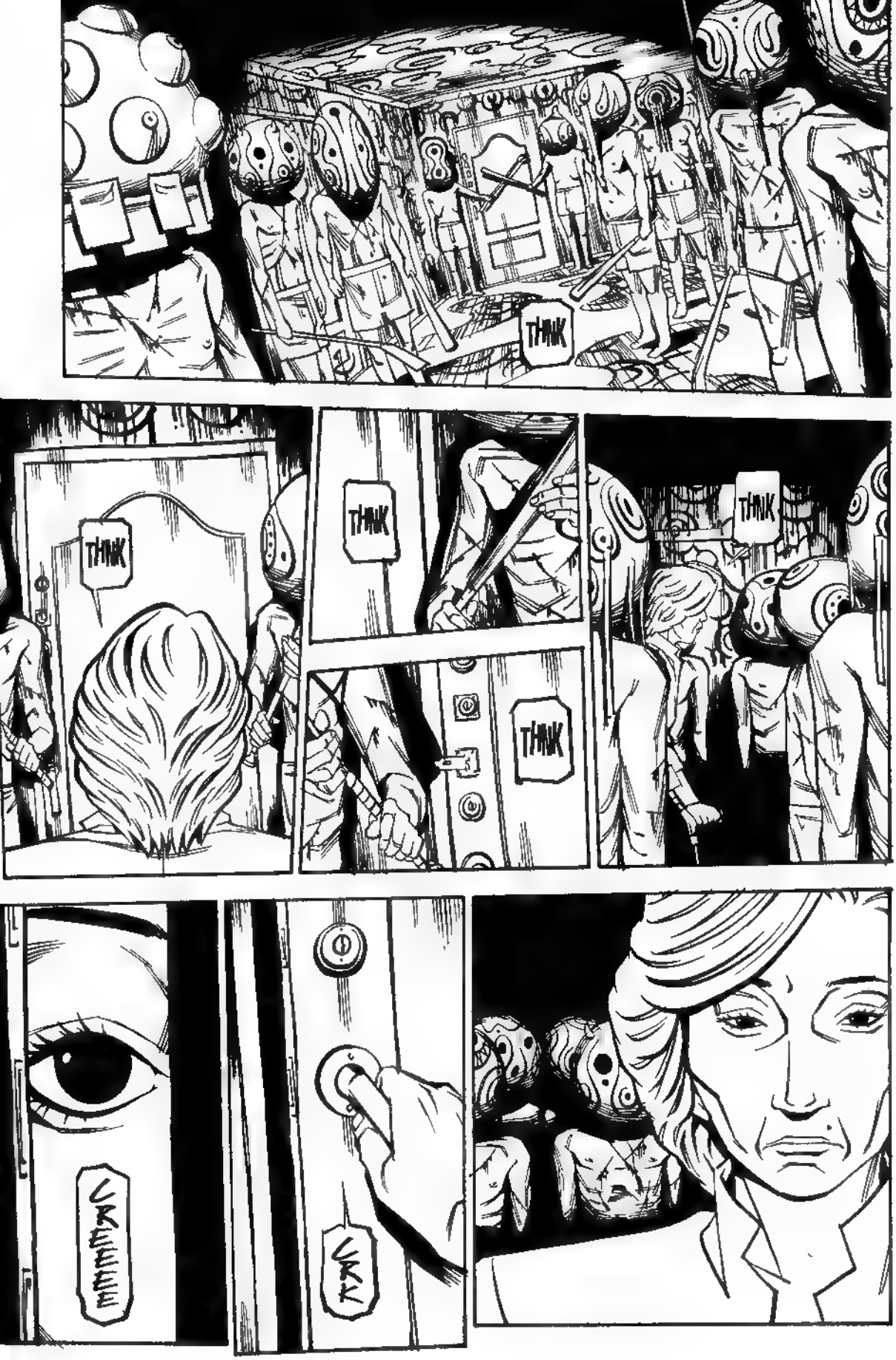

THNK
THNK
THNK
KSSH
FWSSHH
?!
KLIK
SSSSHHHH
SSSSHHHH

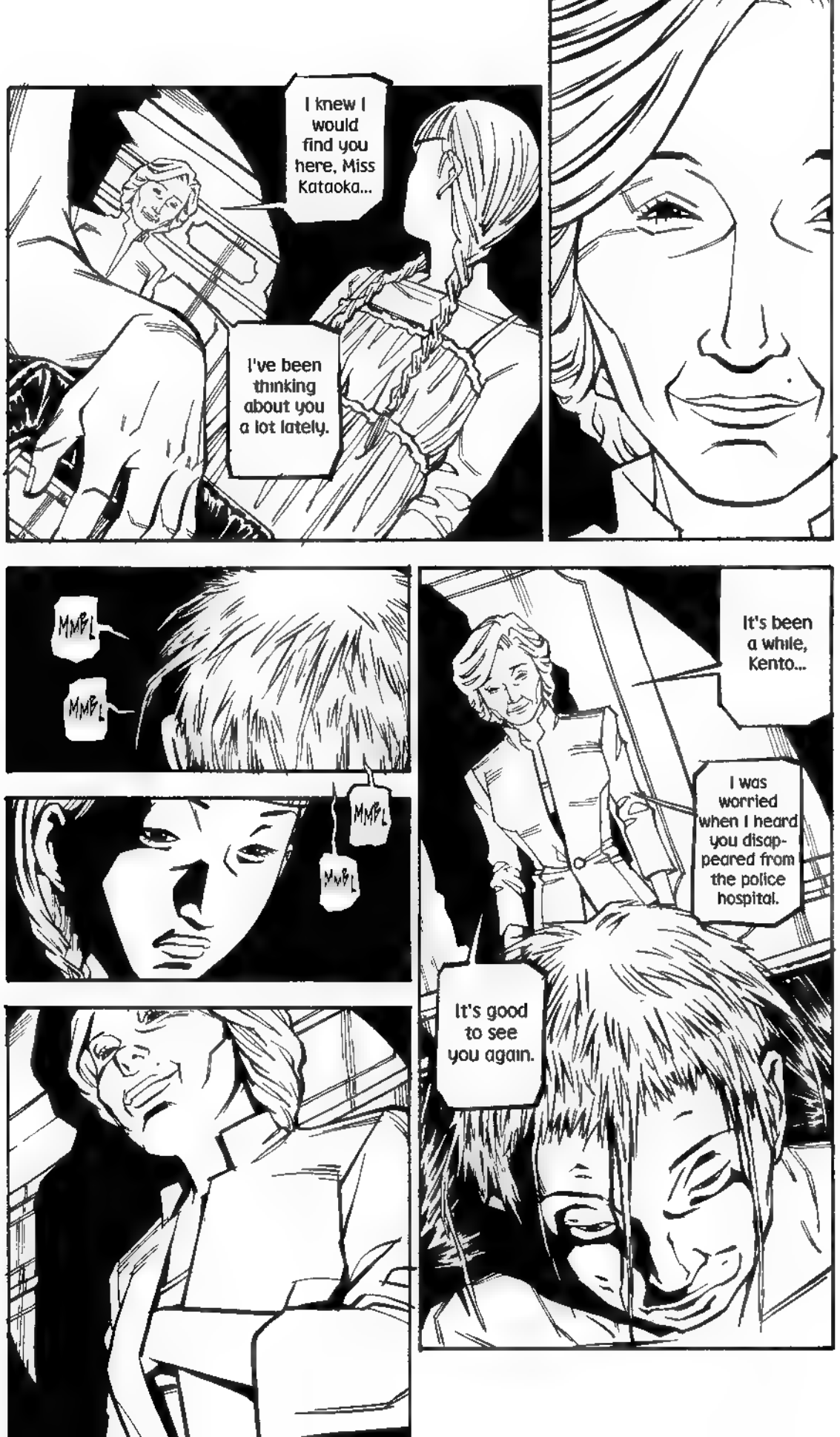

FSSSHHHH


SSSSHHH
SSSSHHH
SSSSHHH
Hurry...
Close the door, Ms. Kosaka.
SSSSHHHH
THMP
[Defeat]

Don't worry, they've agreed to let me talk to you.
I won't let them hurt you.
Are the cops outside?
But there's more than one way to fight.
There are other ways to make things better.
You're all fighting desperately, aren't you...?
You can only change society by being part of it.
Try looking at the small things around you. Not the destruction and the violence.
You're trying to change adults by doing things they can't understand.


...
Staying here isn't going to resolve anything.
Show her upstairs, Telescope.
"He" said it was okay.
You wanted to talk to Kento, right?
Thank you.
I see.
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
SSSSHHH
THINK
THINK
THINK

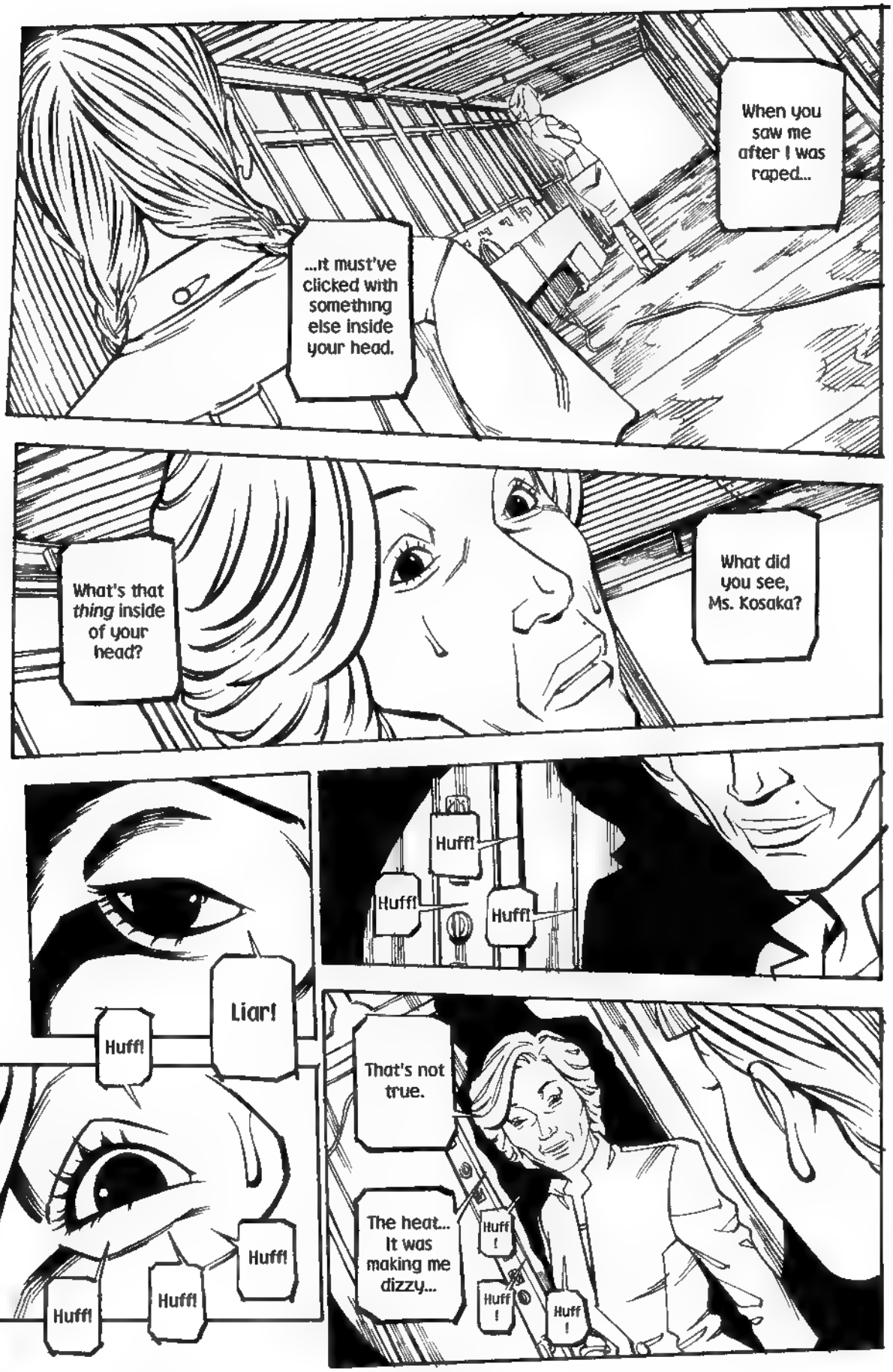

THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
THINK
CREEEE
CRK


I knew I would find you here, Miss Kataoka...
I've been thinking about you a lot lately.
MMPL
MMPL
MMPL
MMPL
It's been a while, Kento...
I was worried when I heard you disappeared from the police hospital.
It's good to see you again.

Connected
I'm sorry...
I'm hanging up.
Sh-she hung up on us!
Sh-sh-she hung up!
Whaaat?! What in the world is she thinking?!
CLICK

Rrrrgh ...
We should wait and see what happens for now...
I-I think she did this to put Kento Miyahara's suspicions to rest...
Should we rush in?!
Now we have no idea what's going on in there...
W-w-wait...
FSSSHHH
...but I wasn't able to help you.
You were both hurt and scared...
I thought maybe... That's one of the reasons things have escalated this far.
I came here...
...because I wanted to apologize to you.

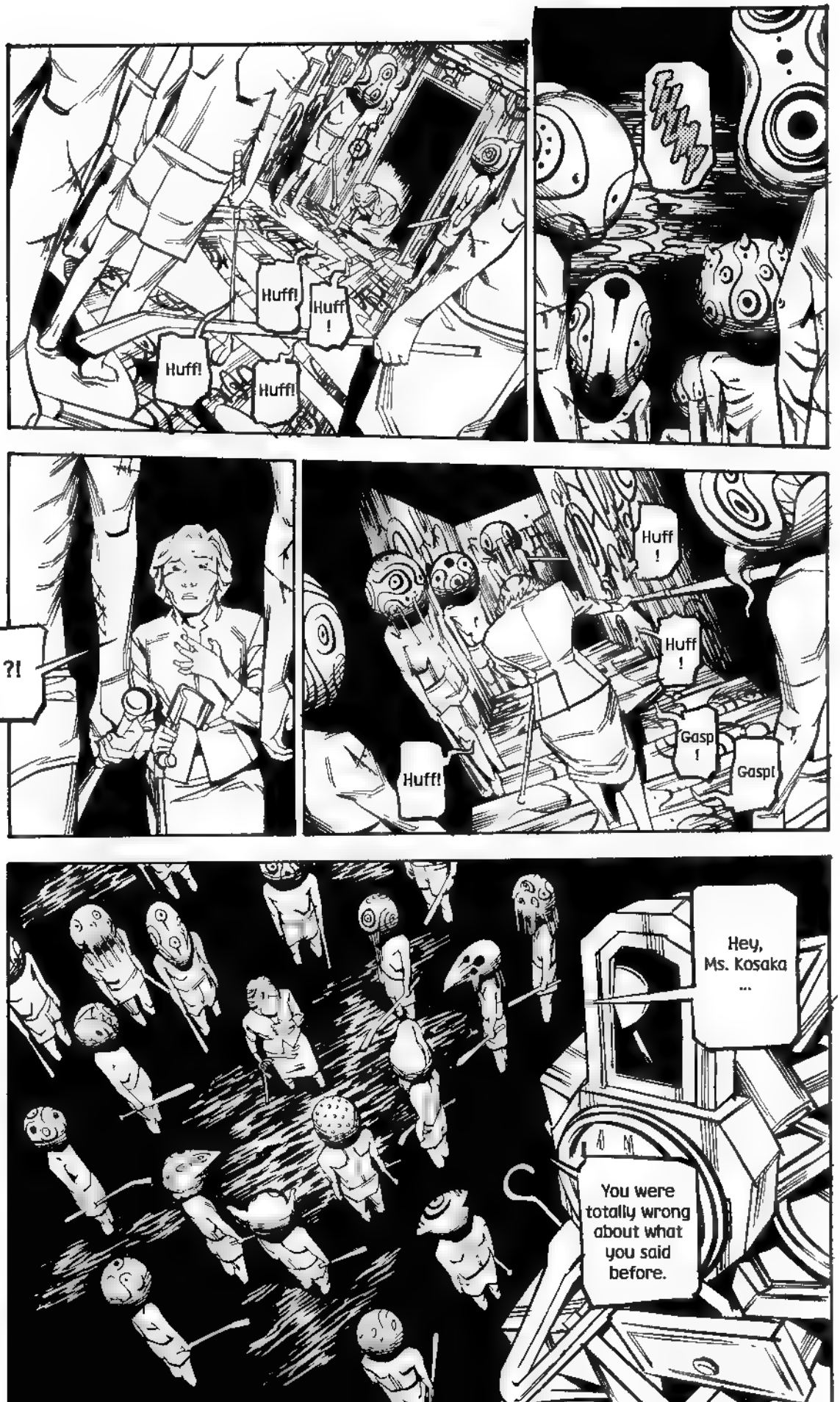
Anything I can do to rescue you from there...?
Is there anything I can still do for you...?
She's hiding something.
When you saw me at the school...
...you looked really scared, Ms. Kosaka.
Huh?

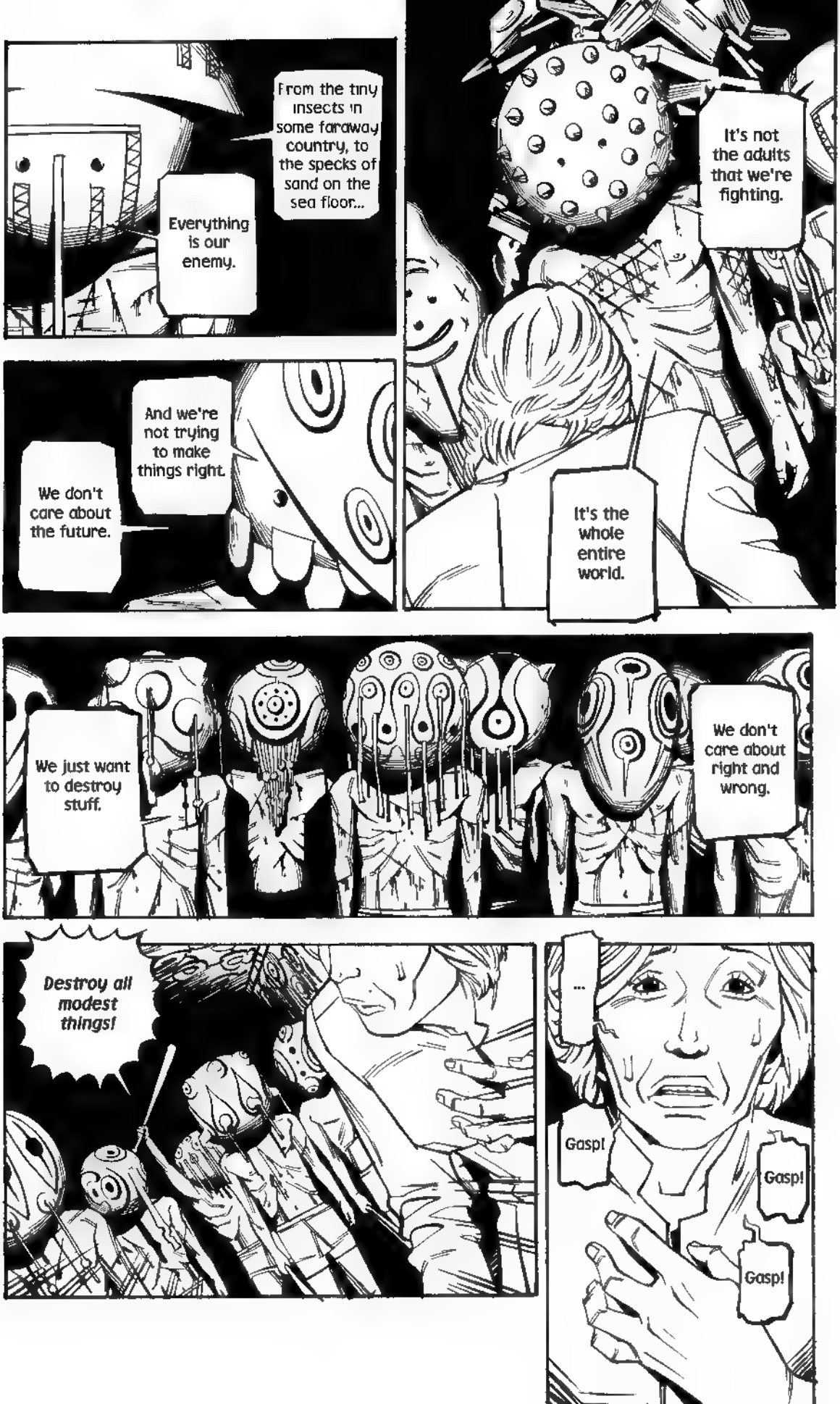

When you saw me after I was raped...
...it must've clicked with something else inside your head.
What's that *thing* inside of your head?
What did you see, Ms. Kosaka?
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Liar!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
That's not true.
The heat... It was making me dizzy...
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!

WOOOOSH
You can't fool us with your lies.
Talk to me, Kento...
Hufff!
Hufff!
Hufff!
I want to help you...
Hufff!
Hufff!
Hufff!
Hufff!
Liar!
I'm only trying to--
Tell me your thoughts, Kento...
Why?
To make up for someone who you couldn't save?

WOOOO
...all your lies are going to be revealed.
Scared that if this goes any further...
You're scared, Ms. Kosaka.
Huff!
Huff!
WOOOO
Huff!
You'll never understand us.
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
I want to understand you, Kento...
I want to save you... All of you...
All lies will come to light.
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
I...
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
I'm...
I'm...
Huff!
Huff!

Gasp!
Gasp!
The disorder...
Gasp!
We have to make it stop...
Gasp!
Gasp!
Fake Samaritan.

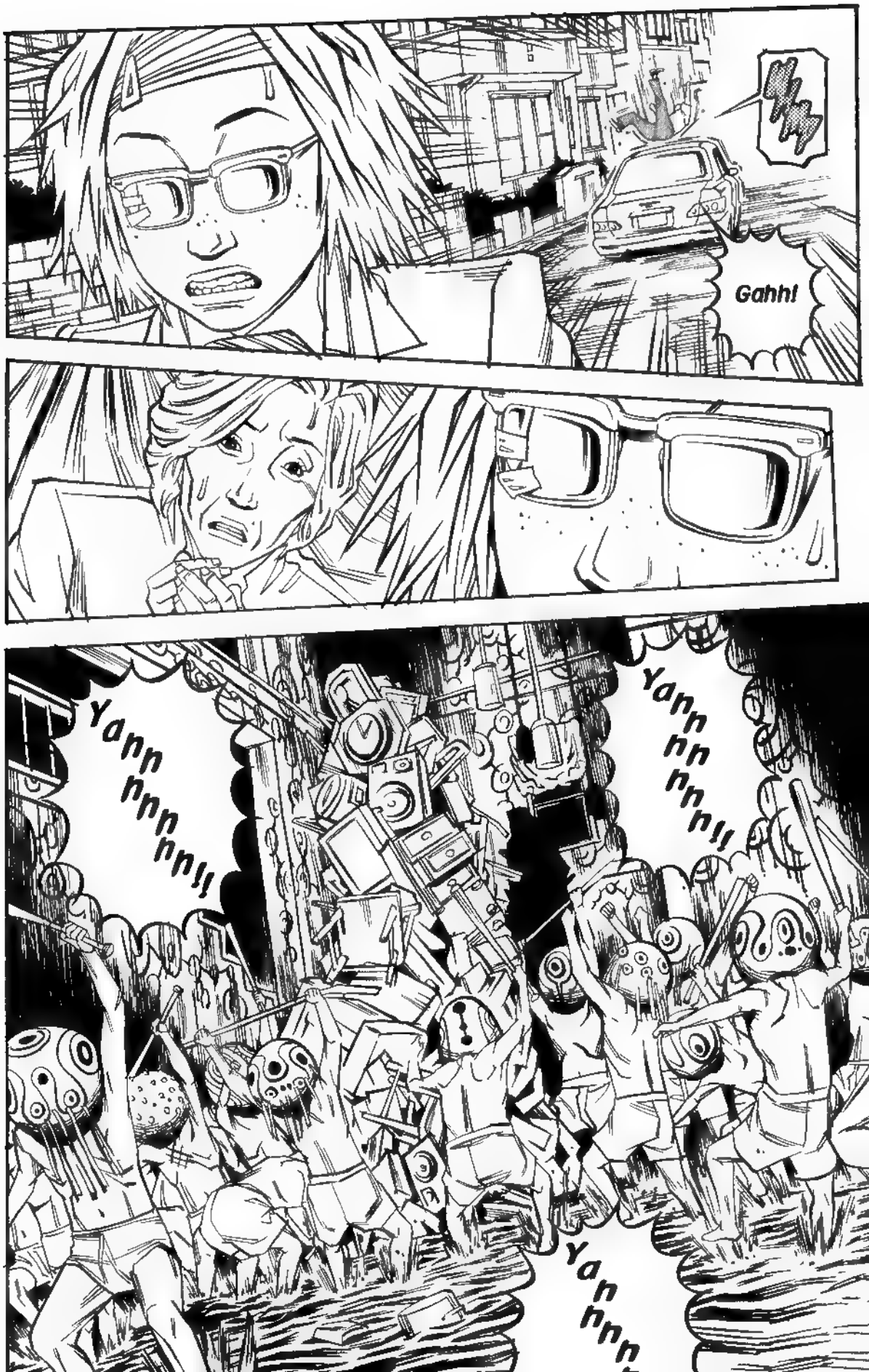

Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff
!
Huff
!
Huff
!
?!
Huff!
Gasp
!
Gasp!
Hey,
Ms. Kosaka
...
You were
totally wrong
about what
you said
before.

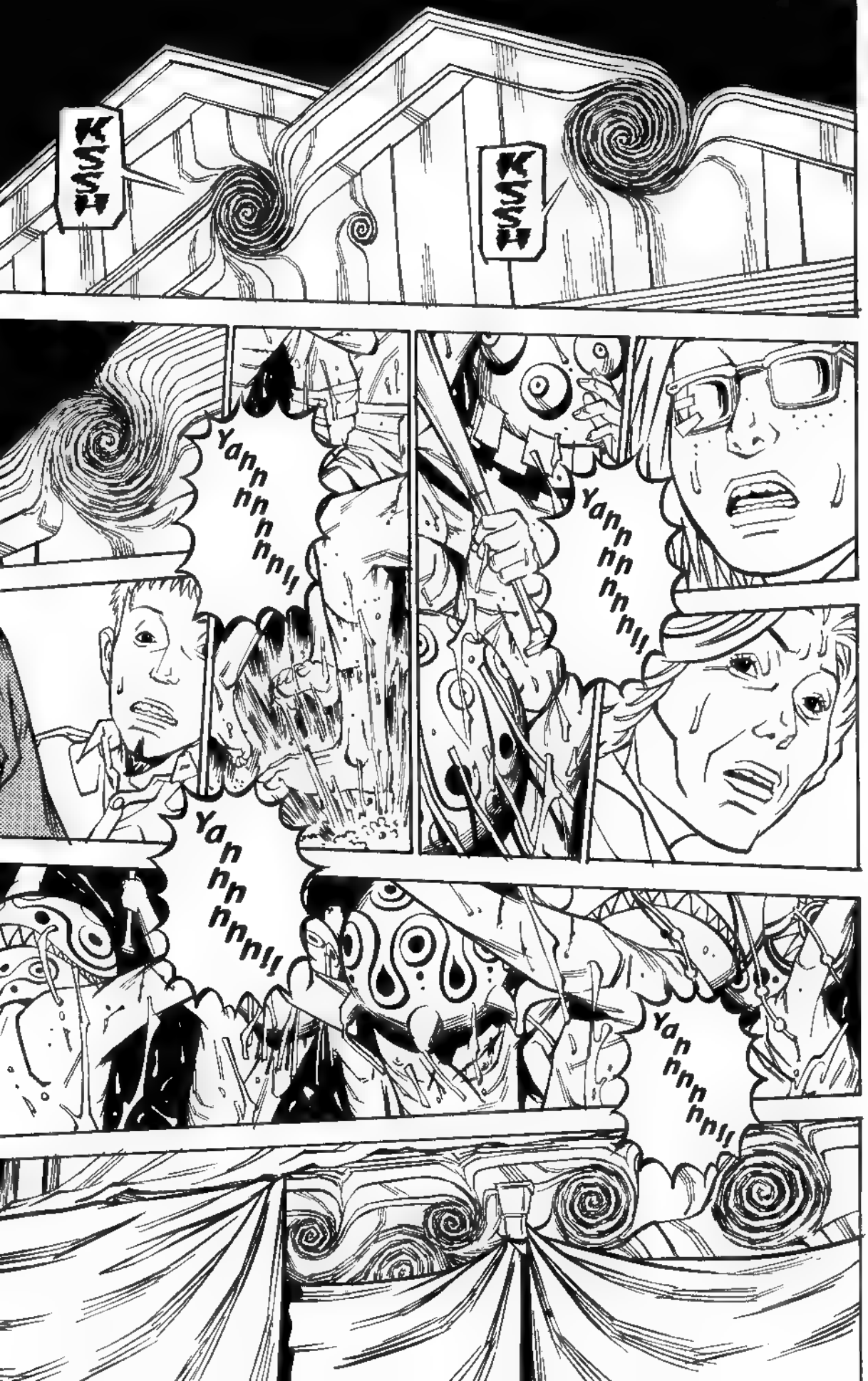

From the tiny insects in some faraway country, to the specks of sand on the sea floor...
Everything is our enemy.
It's not the adults that we're fighting.
It's the whole entire world.
And we're not trying to make things right.
We don't care about the future.
We just want to destroy stuff.
We don't care about right and wrong.
Destroy all modest things!
...
Gasp!
Gasp!
Gasp!

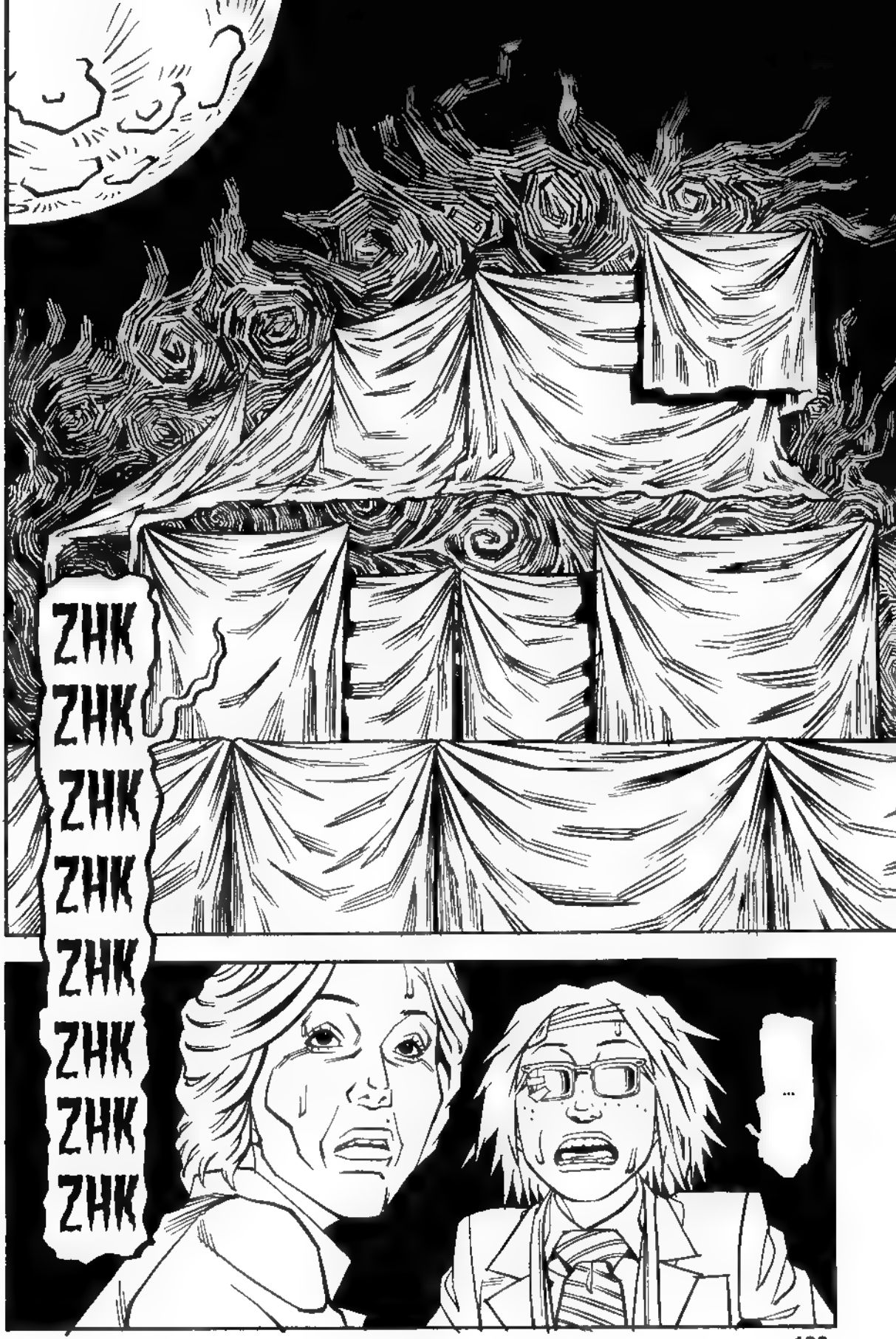
Destroy all modest things!
Destroy all modest things!
Destroy all modest things!
Destroy all modest things!
PLASH
PLASH
PLASH
Destroy all modest things!
Destroy all modest things!
Destroy all modest things!
Gasp!
Huff!
Huff!
Gasp!
Gasp!
Huff!
Gasp!
Gasp!
Huff!
Gasp!

FLEE
!!
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Huff !
Fucking brats!
Wh-what's going on inside...?!
Huff !
Huff !
J-just hyper-ventila-tion.
It'll pass...
Huff !
Huff !
A-a-are you all right?!
Get the fuck outta there—!

Whoaaa !
KSSSH
?!
Wha?!
Wha?!
GLIIIT
Annnnnn!!


Gahh!
Yann nnnn!!
Yann nnnn!!
Yann nnnn!!


KSSH
KSSH
Yann nnnnn!!
Yann nnnnn!!
Yann nnnnn!!
Yann nnnnn!!


ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
...

SOIL
Block 2-18 [End]

SOIL

Block 2-19 [This World Is Twisted Because...]

BLOCK 2-19
ZHK ZHK ZHK ZHK

Whoaaaa ...
It's a real super-natural phenom-enon...
立入禁止 神川署
Keep Out
Kamikawa P.D.

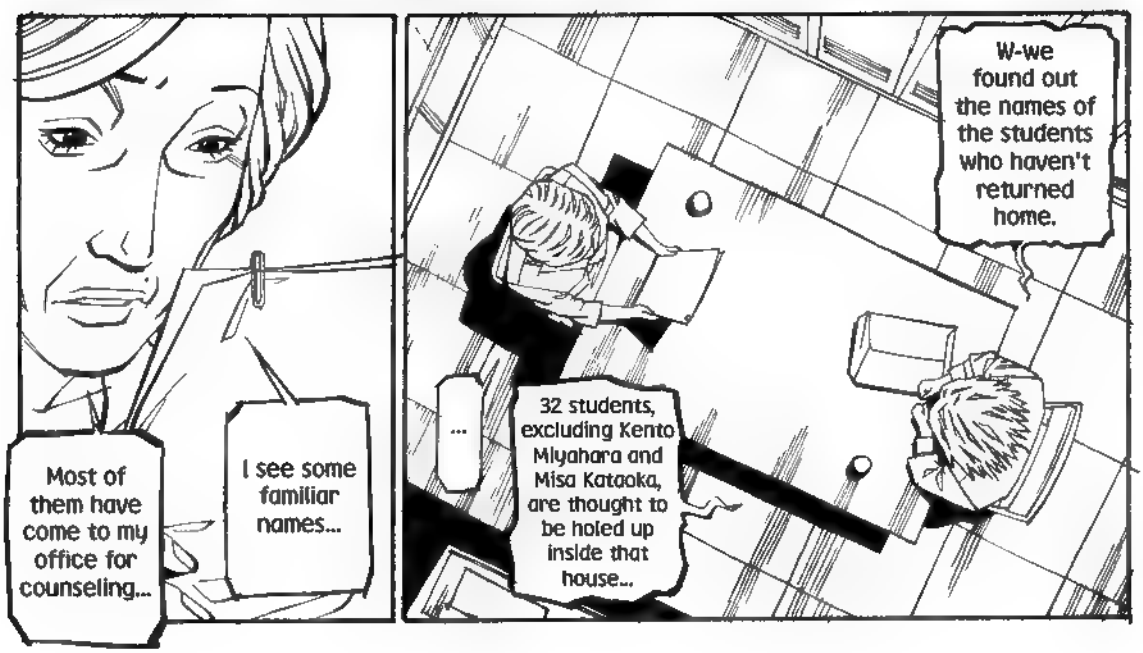
Okay, this is a bit more than I expected...
What?! What do you mean?!

Hey, it's dangerous in there!
You can't just go in...!
Let me go! My son is in there...!
Hey!

WHAP
Hey!
Hey!
Wait!
Sto...!
Ahhh!
ZHAAA
...
Ahhhhhh!
Eeek...!

Wh-what are you talking about?!
Wh-what the hell do you expect me to do about this?!
This is really making me go crazy!
What is that thing?! Do something about it!
...
Yeeeeeeeh!!
Annnnnnn!!
ZHK ZHK ZHK
Oh, so now you're yelling at us?!
Ahhhh! Ahhhh!
Yeah, this is a lot more than I expected ...

[This World Is Twisted Because...]

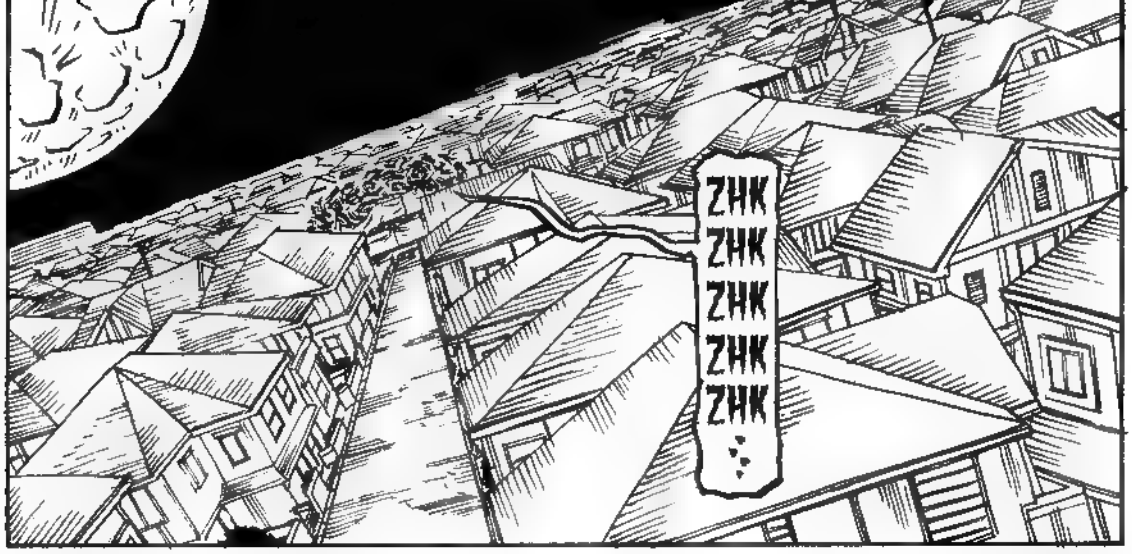

Most of them have come to my office for counseling...
I see some familiar names...
...
32 students, excluding Kento Miyahara and Misa Kataoka, are thought to be holed up inside that house...
W-we found out the names of the students who haven't returned home.

Ahhhhh...
FLAP FLAP FLAP
Huh?
W-we've discovered another strange coinci-dence...
A-a-actu-ally...
A-a-almost all 32 of the students are on this list...
Th-the list of the children who were recorded on the council president's videos...
R-r-right here.
SHF
SHF
...
What's this...?
Ohno, Tokio
Yamaoka, Yoshito
Ito, Masahar
Watan
Osamu
3-B
2-A
A
B

Th-the children were sedated with laughing gas, so they should have no knowledge of what was happening to them...
B-but to think this is just a coincidence...
W-we haven't.
O-or the parents, either...
Have you told the children about the videos...?
...
Wh-wh-what do you think this means...?
That's one possibility.
And it's causing some sort of distortion in their minds...
...
Separate from the memory... Like what happened to Kento and the trio from the ghost building...
It may have left a mark on the unconscious...

An urgent need to engage in this "battle" they were referring to.
They had an earnestness unlike any of the other children...
They're all suffering right now.
We need to rescue them as quickly as possible...
Seeing them has strengthened my resolve even further.

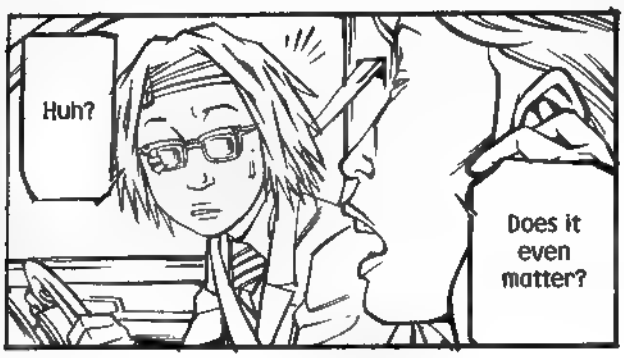
What is that *thing*...?
Do you think that's another form of group hypnosis...?
Th-there's hardly anything we can do...
B-but, with all of this going on...
None of this is real. It's all happening inside of our minds.
Yes.
We will not be able to stop this until we recognize and overcome that fear.
We are being eaten alive by our own fear.
B-b-b-but...
Right...


ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK

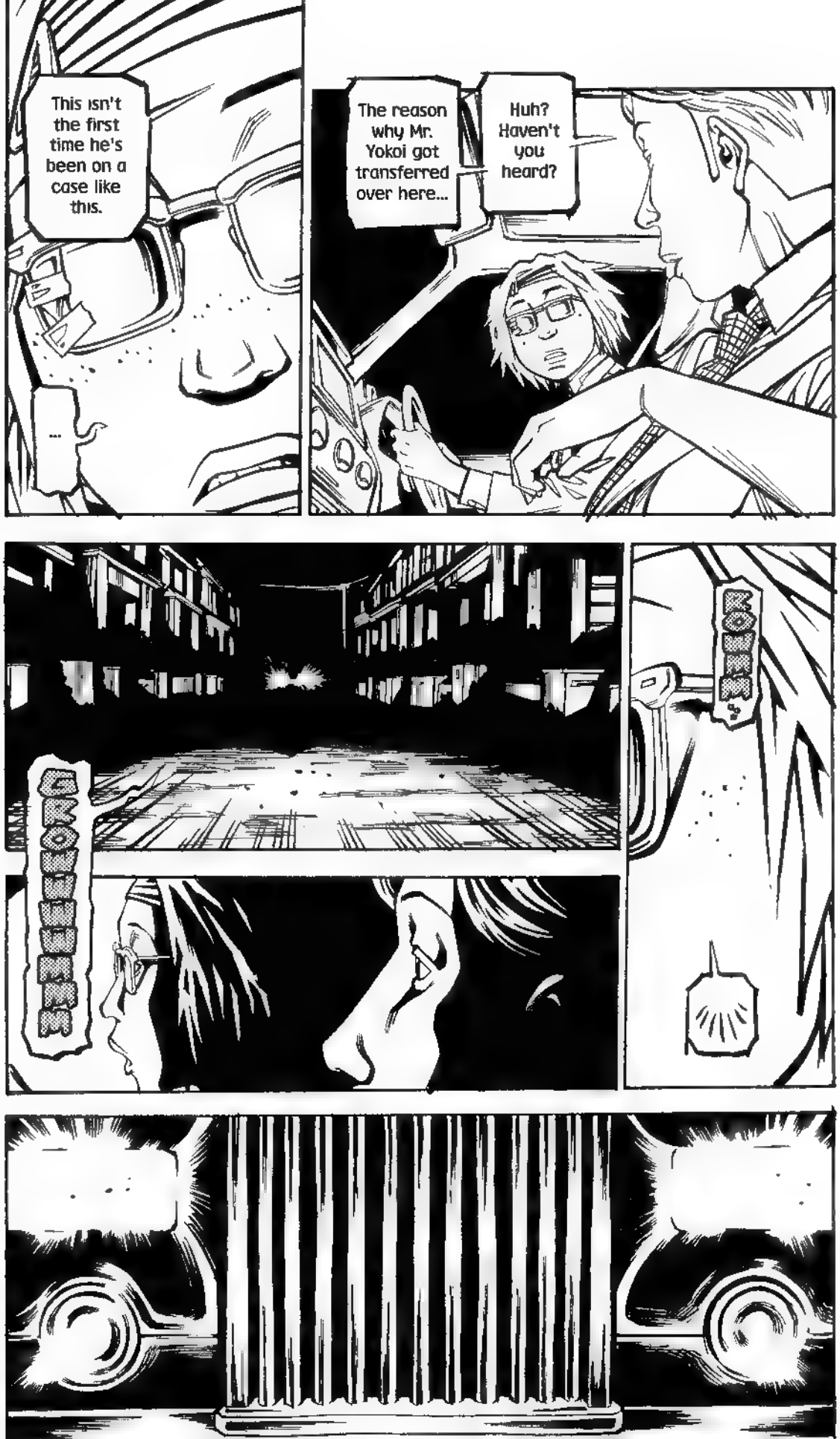
Ms. Kosaka kept telling me...
...th-that all of this is just happening in our minds...
VROOOM

It has nothing to do with us.
The kids in that house aren't the ones suspected of assault, are they?
B-but we can't just allow these strange things to go on...

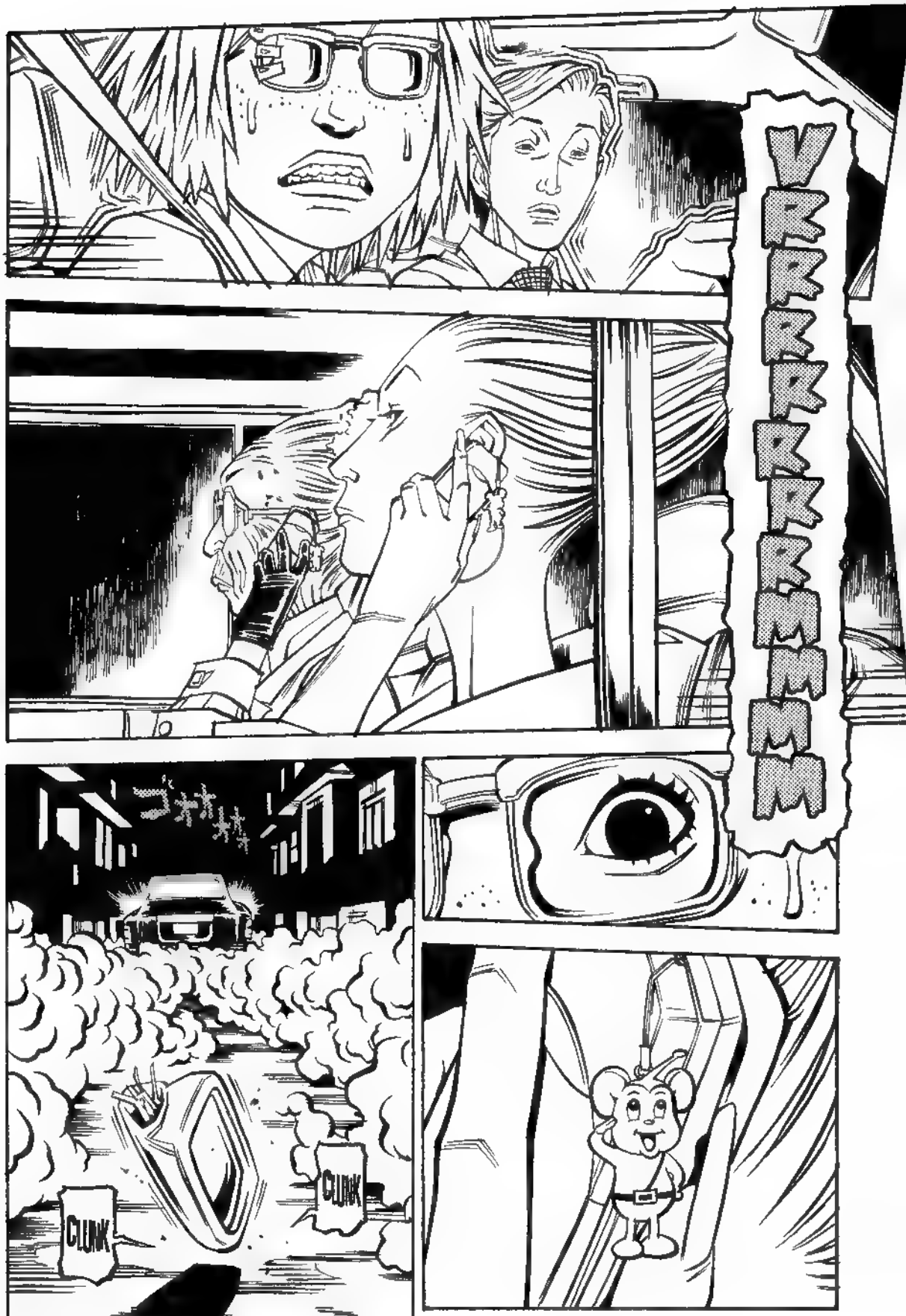
Yaaawn
...b-but it just doesn't seem that way to me.

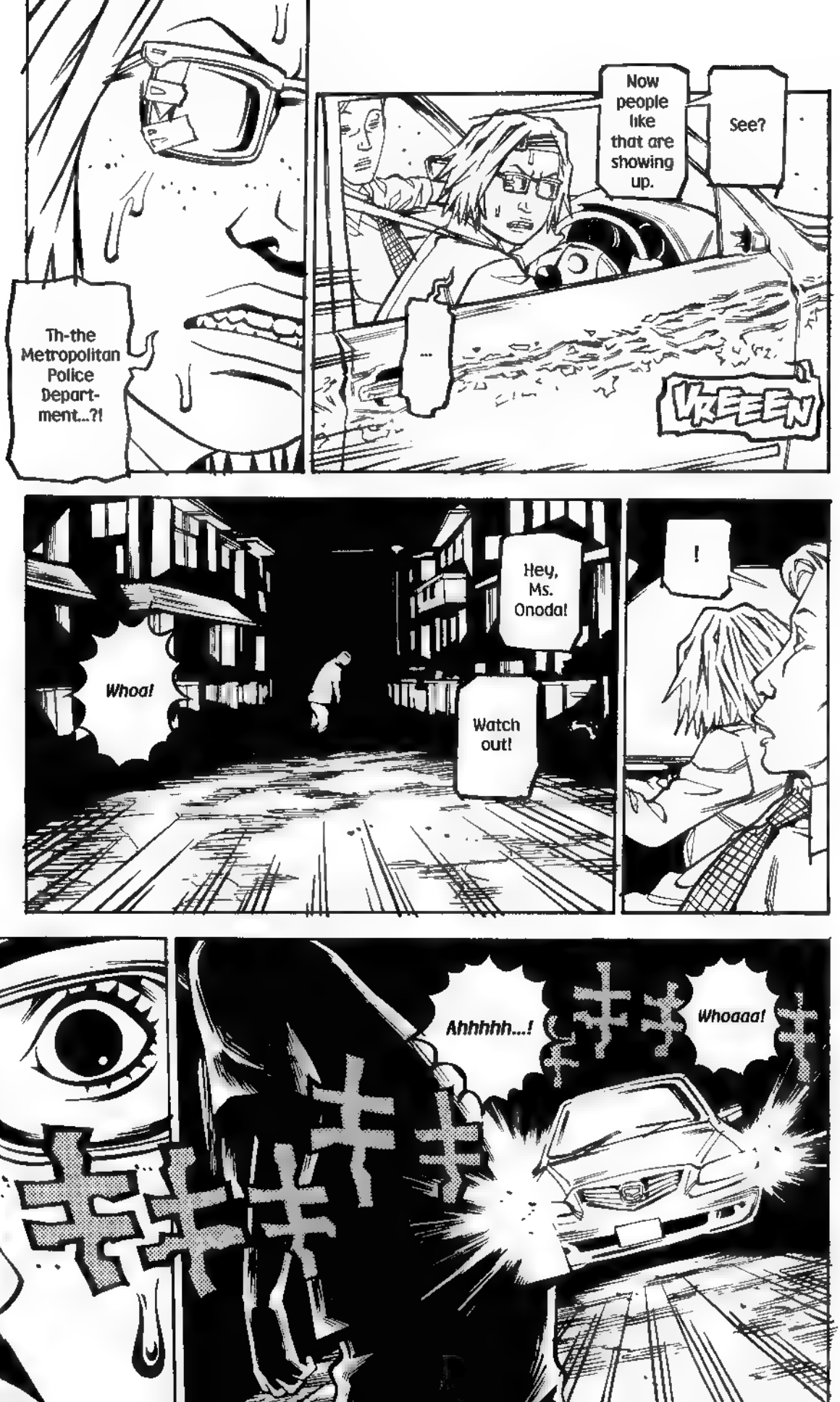

Huh?
Does it even matter?

All that stuff is out of our jurisdiction.
...
But your laziness is getting out of hand, Detective Tamura!
You're constantly dozing off!
ゴオオオ...
I-I never expected much out of you in the first place...
ZHK ZHK ZHK...
A-a-and besides...
The disappearances...
The man with scales...
The alien salt...
The blindfolded man...
I think they all bear a connection to this "phenomenon" that the children have created...
S-S-Sergeant Yokoi...?
Wh-wh-what do you mean by insane...?
What...?
I don't wanna go insane like Mr. Yokoi.
But I don't wanna get involved anymore.

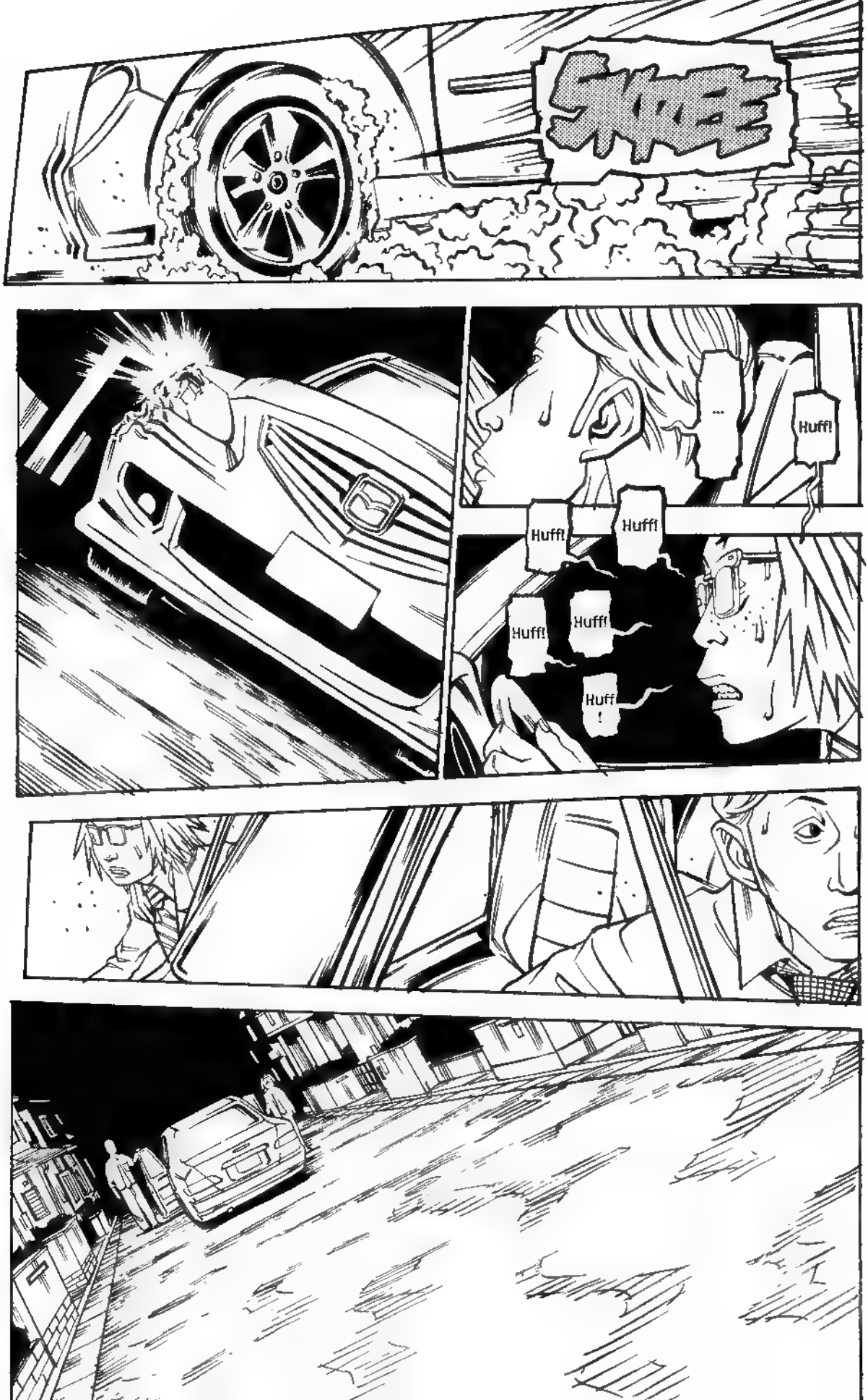

This isn't the first time he's been on a case like this.
...
The reason why Mr. Yokoi got transferred over here...
Huh? Haven't you heard?
ANOTHER
ONE
ANOTHER

ゴオオオオオオ
Whoa!
What the...?!
KRRRH
KRAK
CHNNNNG


VRRRRRRRRMMMM
ゴォォォ
CLUNK
CLUNK

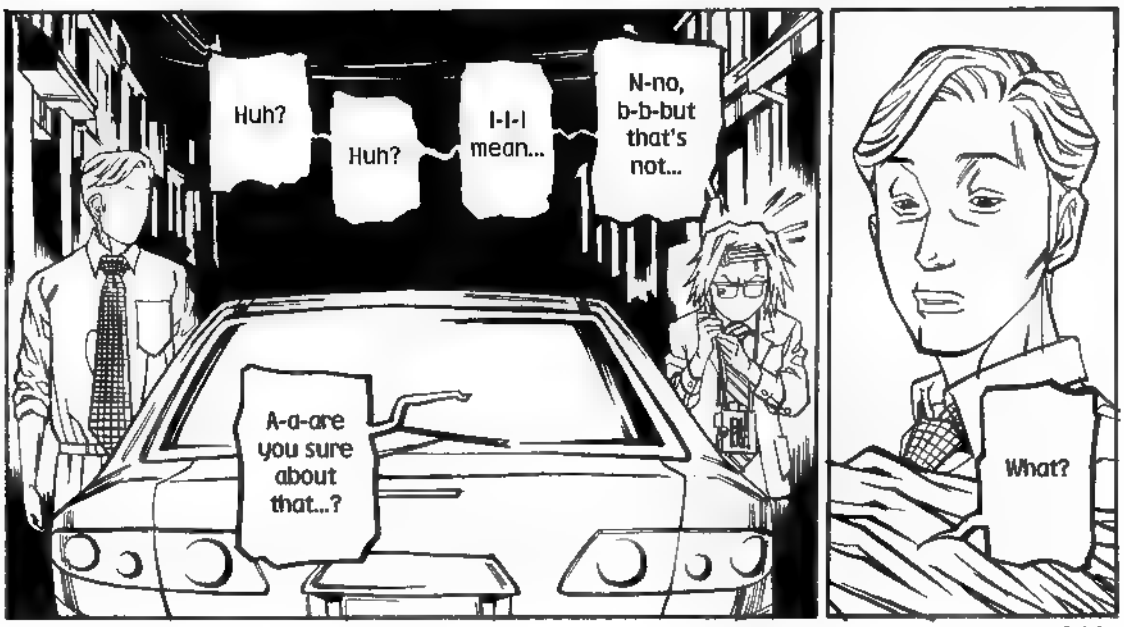

Th-the Metropolitan Police Depart-ment...?!
...
Now people like that are showing up.
See?
VREEEN
Whoa!
Hey, Ms. Onoda!
Watch out!
!
Ahhhhh...!
Whoaaa!

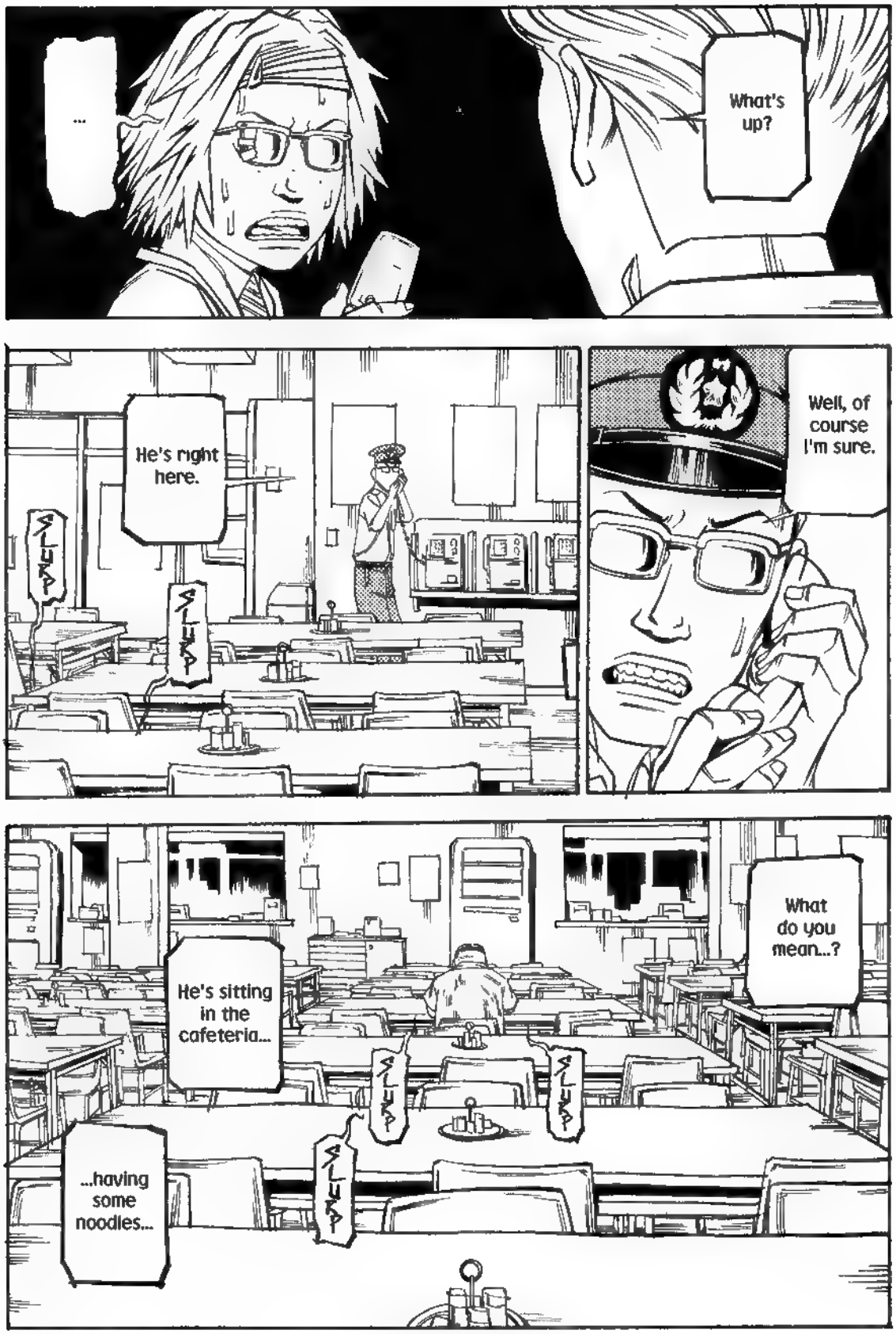
S-
Sergeant Yokoi?!


SKIDE
...
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!

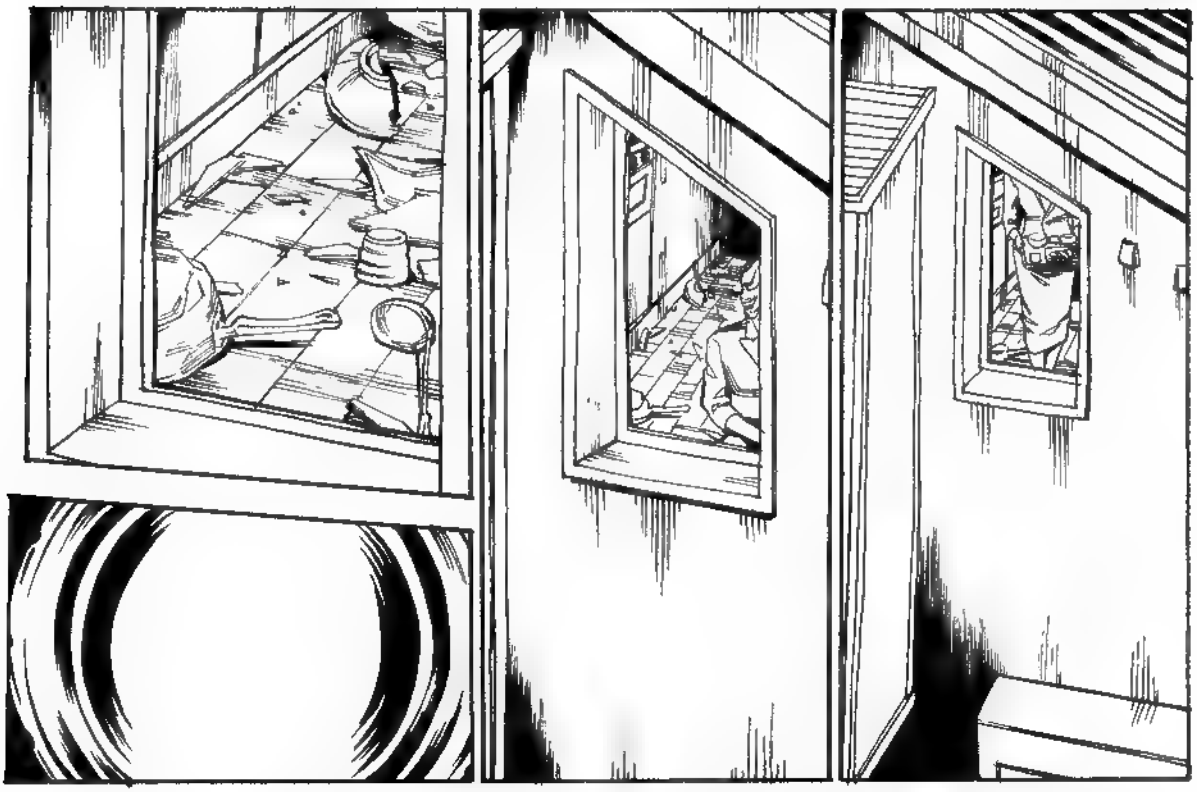
ZHK ZHK ZHK ZHK...

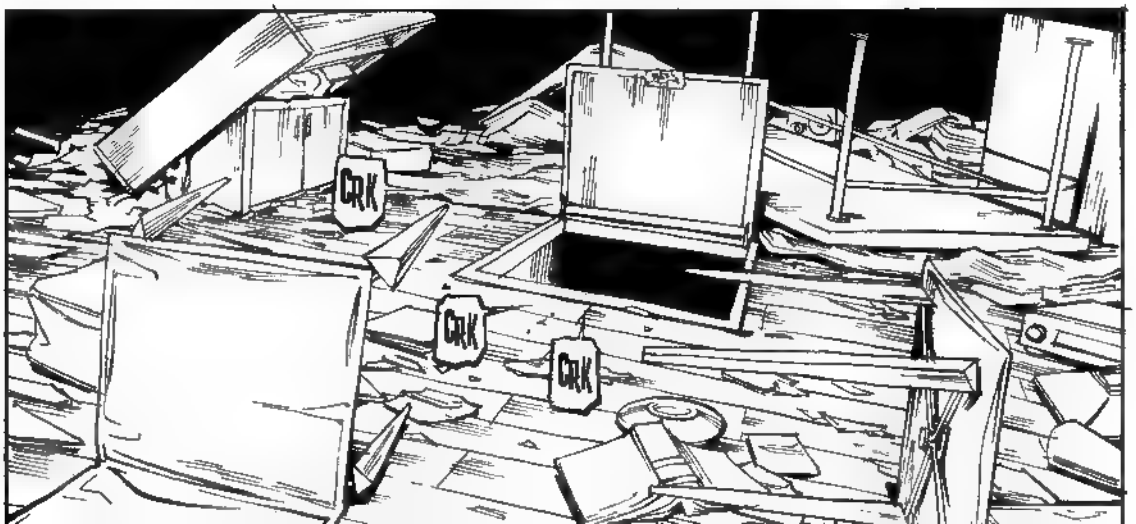
H-hello, this is Onoda.
Oh... Y-y-yes ...
RRING
RRING
...
RRING
RRING

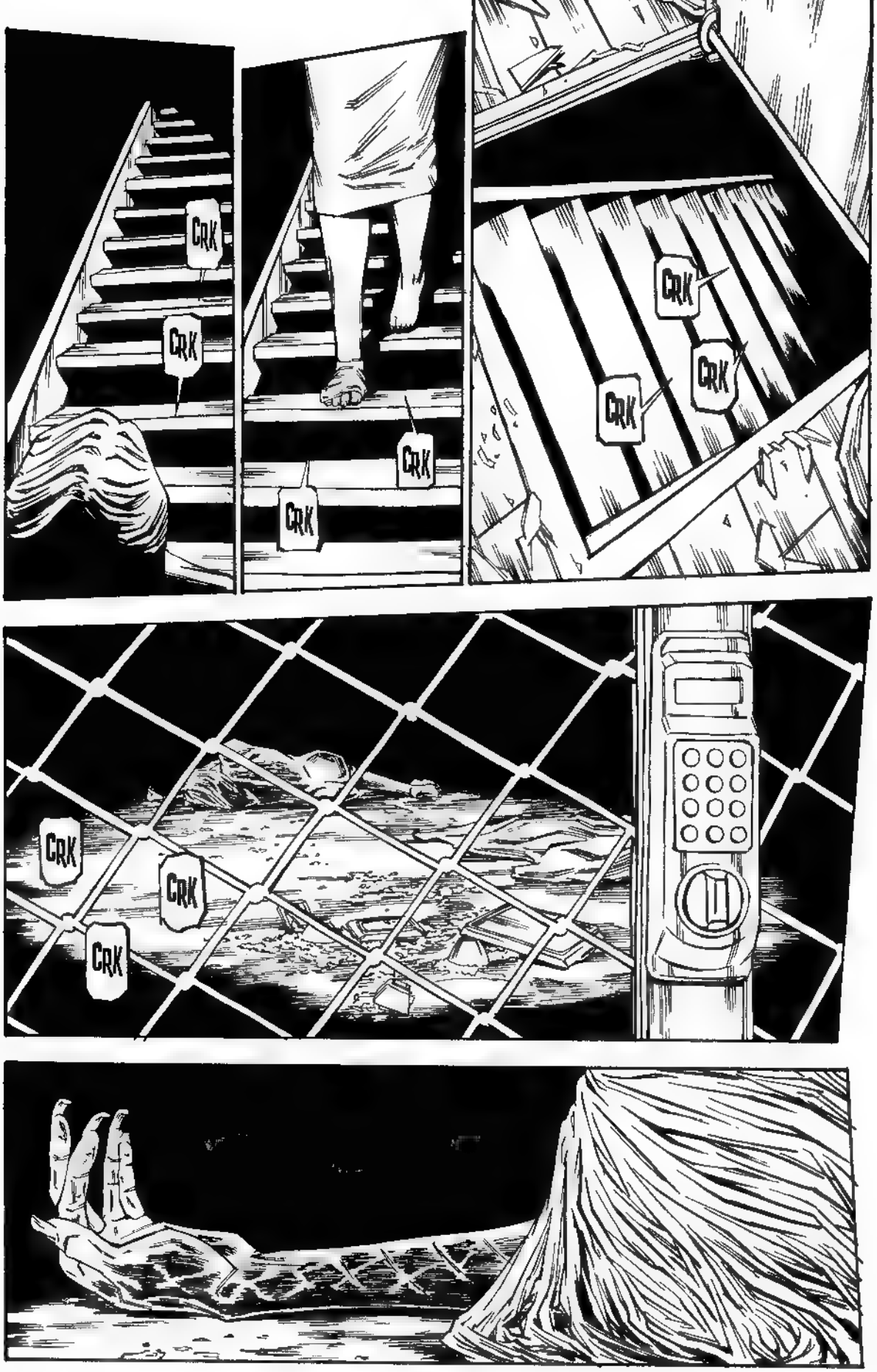

Huh?
Huh?
I-I-I mean...
N-no, b-b-but that's not...
A-a-are you sure about that...?
What?


...
What's up?
He's right here.
SLURP
SLURP
Well, of course I'm sure.
He's sitting in the cafeteria...
SLURP
SLURP
SLURP
What do you mean...?
...having some noodles...

SLURP
SLURP
SLURP
ZHK ZHK ZHK...
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK




CRK
CRK
CRK


CRK
CRK
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CRK
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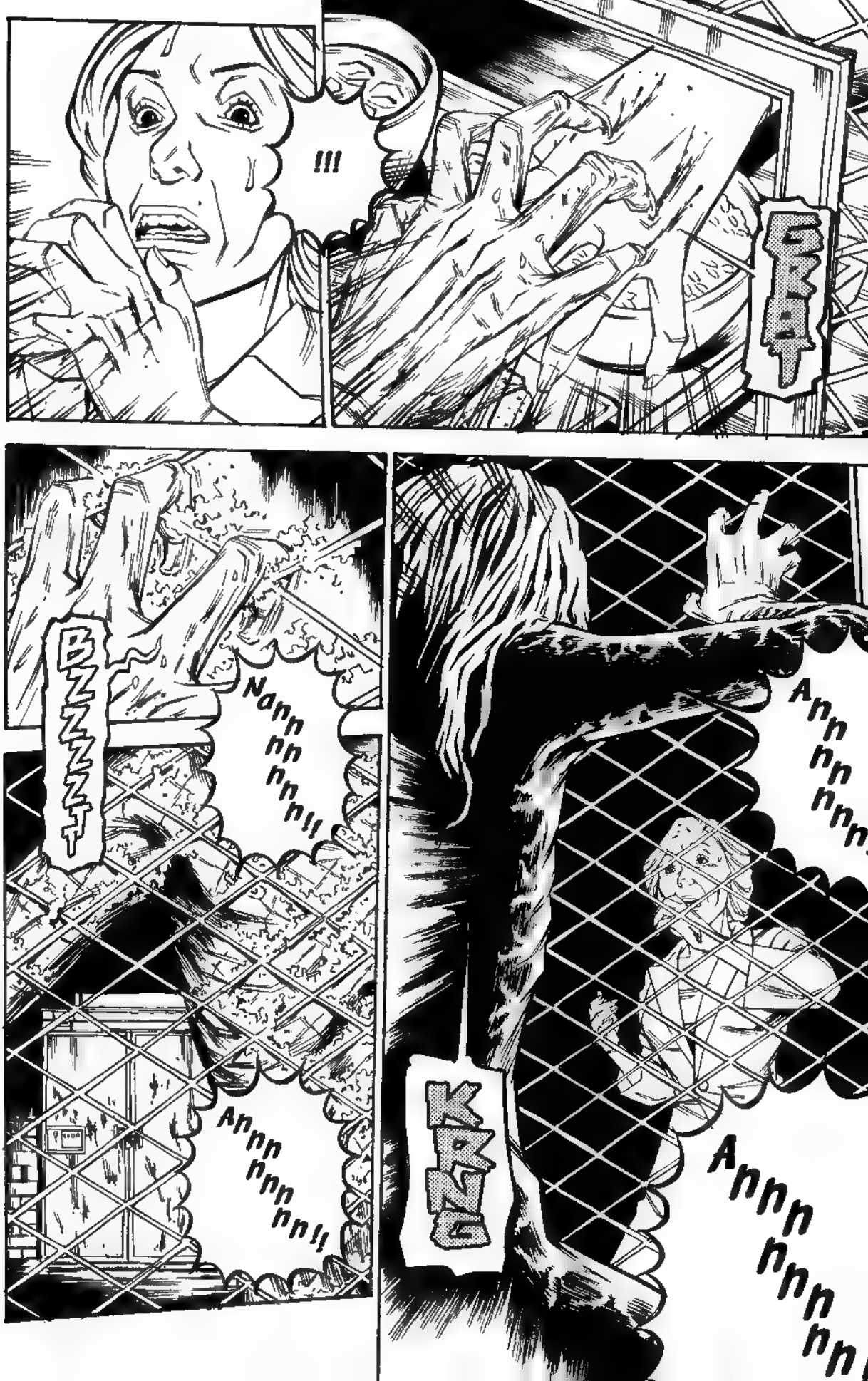
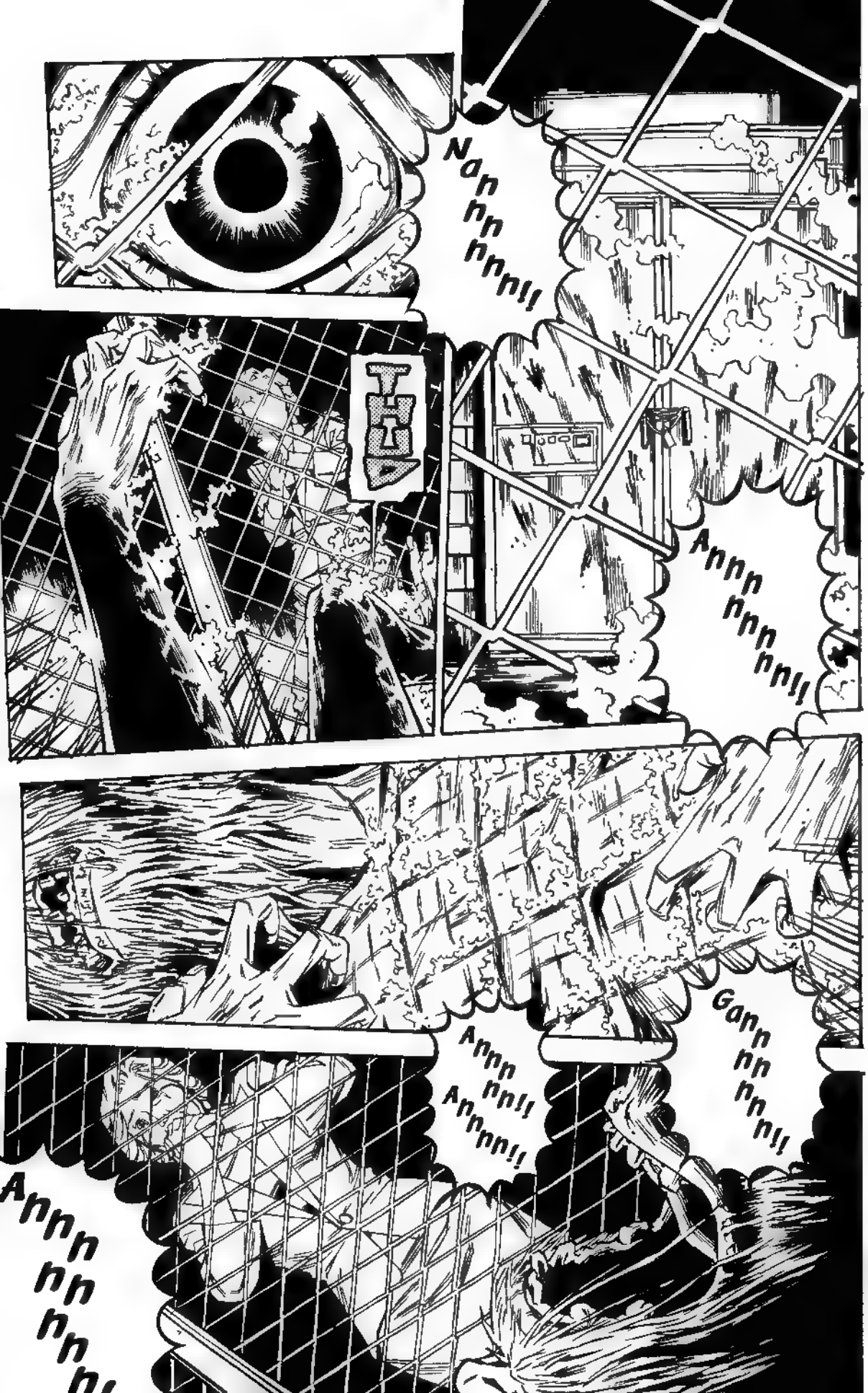
CRK


!!!
ERT
BZZZZT
Nann nnnnn!!
Annn nnnnn!!
KNRK
Annn nnnnn!!
Annn nnnnn


Nonnnnnn!!
THD
Annnnnnnn!!
Gonnnnnnn!!
Annnnn!!
Annnnn!!
Annnnnnnnn!!

The "foreign organism ..."
...is you!
This world is twisted because of you.
It's aaaaall your fault...
Sacchin knows...
The Angel said so.

ZHK ZHK ZHK
立入禁止
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
ZHK
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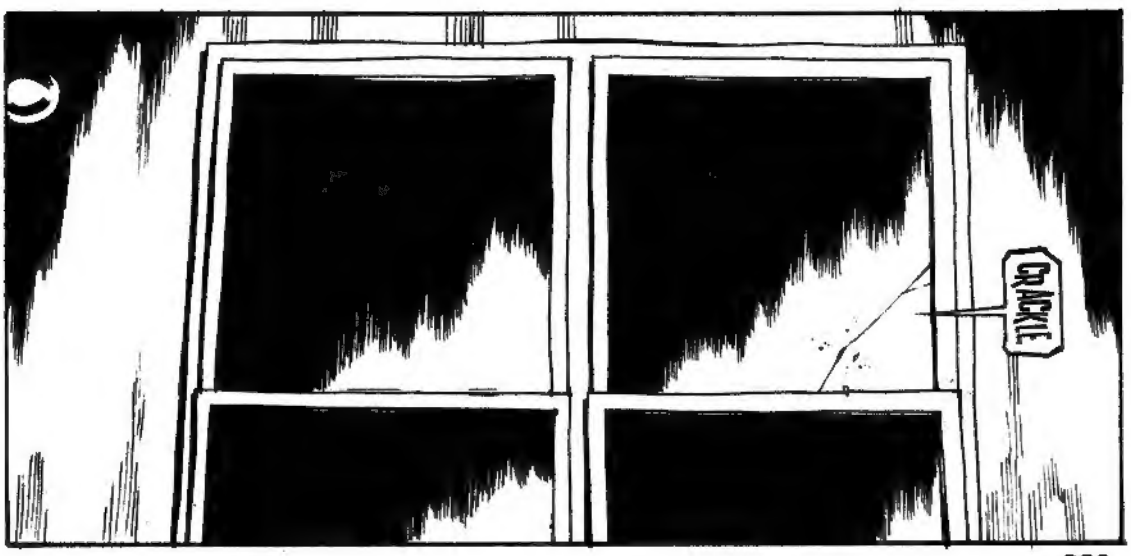
CRACKLE

SOIL［ソイル］5 END

To be continued in the next volume.

The boundary between natural and unnatural has collapsed.
Now madness is seeping through the breach, engulfing the town.
"The man with scales" howls in the dark. Strange tremors shake the house where it all started.
...And so the twisted "feast" begins.

The nightmare reaches its climax as we embark upon the 6th volume of this dark secret,
and plummets into the furor of world's end.

BEAM COMIX

ソイル

SOIL

ソイル

カネコアツシ

5

カネコアツシ

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